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TOWN RECORDS
OF
TOPSFIELD

MASSACHUSETTS

VOLUME II

1739-1778



TOPSFIELD, MASS.
THE TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1920

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Topsfield

MASS.

INTRODUCTION

Town affairs in Topsfield during the forty years covered by the following pages developed little of an unusual character save the decision to erect a new meeting-house and the several steps, taken in common with other towns, leading up to direct participation in the War of the Revolution. The most absorbing interest was shown in every detail of the construction of the meeting-house, at last ending in the "seating" of the people, in which was shown "Respect to persons above Sixty years of age before money in younger men."

The old meeting-house was badly in need of repairs. The roof leaked and the glass in the casement sash was in constant need of the "glasser's" attendance and at last a committee reported that the old building, built in 1703, was not worth further repairing. Among the various plans for bettering the bad condition of the building had been one, proposed in 1752, to "cut of the Lucombs and make the Roof four Squar or Weather they will raise a principal at Each Corner so as to make ye north and south Roofs the whole Length of sd house." Here is the only evidence that has come down to us that the 1703 meeting-house bore a hip roof with small dormer windows projecting from each of its four sides while from the center of the roof extended a "turret." Fashions in architectural styles succeed each other as inexorably as fashions in women's dress. The 1703 meeting-house turns out to be similar in appearance to contemporaneous meeting-houses at Newbury, Ipswich, Salem Village and elsewhere.* The old Ship Meeting-house, yet standing at Hingham, is very similar.

The raising of the frame of the new building called for a dinner for one hundred men provided at the expense of the town and the detail of liquid refreshments was considered to be of such importance that first the meeting voted to "get a Barriell of Rhum" for the "Laborers"; then by another vote it decided to provide "half a Hundred wait of Shuger"; and finally "The Town agreed to Git Twelve Barriells of Sider" as supplemental supplies. When the committee in charge of the raising presented its bill it was found that the hundred "Laborers" also had

*See Rice's History of the First Parish, Danvers, page 57, for an excellent picture.

consumed 128 1/2 pounds of pork, 12 1/2 pounds of beef and 87 pounds of cheese, together with white and brown bread. No doubt the day was long remembered.

The new meeting-house was painted and supplied with sliding sash. The stocks were kept there and space was set aside in which to store the town's stock of powder, bullets and flints. Two years later it was proposed in town-meeting that a bell be purchased, but nothing came of it. The first bell that was hung in the steeple was placed there in 1817 and was cast by Paul Revere.

When did the first choir proudly take possession of "the singing seats?" No one knows. But at the annual meeting in March, 1771, an unsuccessful effort was made to order Captain Averill to select "such a Number of Persons as [he] shall Judge to be well Skill'd in Singing to Set Together on Sundays, in the first two seats in the north part of the west Galerie," and two other unsuccessful attempts soon followed. Can there be anything more conservative than an old-time rural community?

The approach of the Revolutionary War here may be traced step by step. When the houses of Lieutenant-Governor Hutchinson and other officials were pillaged by a Boston mob in 1766 and it was proposed that the Great and General Court should reimburse them for the losses sustained, the town presented to their representative, Capt. Samuel Smith, written instructions directing him in case it should be found that those "Gentlemen or either of them suffer'd by being actually engag'd for the good of his majesties Subjects in this Province", that then they should have "a proper Allowance"; otherwise "we would have you by no means Consent thereto." The instructions contain a satirical allusion to the recent repeal of the Stamp Act, and end by proposing a "Subscription or Contribution as in case of Calamitous Accidents by fire" which "we are heartily willing to give them as much as our ability and low Circomstances will admit of."

The town entered zealously into the Non-importation Agreement in 1770 and drew up a statement of principles and sent a committee among the inhabitants to obtain signers. Glass, painter's colours and tea were specifically outlawed. Later, the town scornfully condemned the "parlament of Great Britten" for the "Crafty manner" in which liberty had been granted to the East India Company to export tea into America with a duty imposed upon it. As early as April, 1773, it was acting in conjunction with the Committee of Correspondence in Boston and in town-meeting held May 18, 1773, the voters adopted a

Declaration of Rights which foreshadow the opening sentences of the famous Declaration of July 4, 1776. 'The town stood "ready at all times to Joyn with their Brethren in every legal way and manner, to defend the life and person of his Majesty . . . and in the same way to preserve and Defend Our Own Lawfull Rights Libertys and Propertys even to the last Exstremity." In the fall of 1774, Captain Smith was chosen a delegate to the Provincial Congress that was forbidden to assemble by Governor Gage, and again, in January, 1775, he was sent to the next Congress. By that time the local minute men were drilling and the town was voting to "give incouragement to such Military Soldiers as may inlist."

The town-meeting held May 13, 1775 was warned by constable Enos Knight "In his Majesties Name," as was the meeting called for Sept. 19, 1775. But that was the last time that such deference was shown to King George and at the meeting held June 21, 1776, formal instructions to representative Deacon John Gould were adopted declaring "that the unighted Colonies will be greatly wanting in their duty. . . if Independence of the Kingdom of greate Britten is not declared as Soon as may be, these being our Sentiments," and "your Constituants will support and defend the measure with Lives and fortunes to the utmost of their power."

Long before this time there had been a considerable exodus from the coast towns to Topsfield and other inland towns. When the census was taken in June, 1776, fifty white people and one negro were living here who belonged to other towns. The population of the town at that time consisted of 733 whites and 25 negroes and "mollattoes." The hardships of the times are reflected in the second article in the warrant for the town-meeting to be held Nov. 24, 1777:—

"To see if the Town would have Deacon Gould deliver out any of the molasses to the poor of Other towns Resident in this town which was given to the poor of this town by Capt. John Darby."

In January, 1777, the town made choice of a committee "to take an account of what each person has paid in money toward the charges of raising men in this town for the present War. . . and also an Account of what service each person has done in said War, and at what place." An invaluable historical record had it been preserved to the present day. But when the committee made its report a month later it was read in town-meeting "and being put to vote was not accepted." Such was and is human nature.

In the last estimate, however, the following records exhibit their greatest value in the faithful picture they present of the transaction of public business, year by year. The conduct, and and oft-times neglect, of the public schools; the care of the highways and bridges; the jealous guarding of rights in the common lands; and the many minor transactions. It transpires that rent was paid for a room in our well-known "Parson Capen House," in which "to keep the common school." The warrant for the annual meeting in March 1745, contains an article: "To see if the Town will Do any thing to prevent Sheeps going in the Training field [the present Common] without a Shepherd." The family of French Acadians assigned to the town required constant attention. The man was sick much of the time. In 1757, the warrant for the November meeting has an article: "To See what measures the Town will Come into for to have the french family in Said town Supported under their Dificult Surcomstantes."

The care of the poor and the "warnings out of town" throw lights and also sad shadows on the customs of the times and when measured by the standards of today sometimes discover a cold temper little short of heartlessness. Yet, when Samuel Tutoo, the last Indian living in the town, became sick, the widow Herrick on the south side of the river, cared for him through the ten weeks of his last sickness and the town not only paid her bill of £2.13.4, but paid Doctor Dexter's bill and also supplied a coffin and a grave.

The list of town clerks is here continued from the previous volume. Richard Towne held many offices and was long in public life. Elijah Porter died suddenly one Sunday evening while in office: "a person of good endowments, natural and acquired." Capt. Samuel Smith was long active in town affairs and took a leading part at the time of the Revolution.

JACOB PEABODY	1739—1749
RICHARD TOWNE	1749—1764
DAVID BALCH	1764—1766
ELIJAH PORTER	1766—1775
SAMUEL SMITH	1776—1778
STEPHEN PERKINS	1778—

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

TOPSFIELD TOWN RECORDS.

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Topsfield such as are Quallified for Voting are Warned to Assemble and Meet together at the Meeting house in Said Topsfield on fryday the Thirtieth Day of November Currant at Two of the Clock afternoon

1 To Choose two Meet persons to take Care of the Violaters of an Act Relating to the killing of Dear within the province

2 To See if the Town will Do anything further about the Line Between Topsfield and Wenham and to Act thereon as may be thought best: 3 To Allow bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield November 26th 1739

Dan Clarke
Constable of Topsfield.

John Wildes
Tobijah Perkins
Benj^a Towne

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

A True Copy Attest Jacob Peabody Towne Clerk

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield Novem^r 30th 1739

1 Cap^t Joseph Gould is Chosen Moderator for this meeting
voted

2 Mr Joseph Herrick, and Mr Thomas Gould are Chosen to take Care to Inform of the Violaters of the Last act or Law Concerning Deer
voted

3 Whereas Cap^t Joseph Gould, Mr John Wildes, Mr Edmond Towne, Mr Nathaniel Averill Jun^r and Jacob Peabody were Chosen in May Last to Joyn with Some Gentlemen from Wenham to Settle A Corner bounds between Wenham and Topsfield on Salem Line and Said Committe having now Reported that they had Meet with Wenham Men Twice and Could Not agree about the bounds And after Some Debate thereon The Town agreed that the Said Committe viz Cap^t Joseph Gould, Mr John Wildes, Mr Edmond Towne Mr Nathaniel Averill Jun^r and Jacob Peabody or the Major part of them Shall Meet once More with Such gentlemen as Wenham hath or Shall appoint (for y^e Same Service) and Said Committe are hereby fully impowered to Settle the bounds with them between Said Towns according to the best of their Judgment
voted

4 And if the Said Committe or the Major part of them Do not Agree with Wenham Committe to Settle Bounds between Said Towns: that then Cap^t Joseph Gould and mr John Wildes are hereby fully Impowered to prosecute Wenham in the Law: for Not Perambulating on y^e Line between Wenham and Topsfield as the Law Directs voted

5 The Town Allowed Ten pounds to y^e School Committe to pay the School Master for keeping School two Months this year 10—0—0 voted

Essex ss Decemb^r 26th: 1739: We the Subscribers appointed to Perambulate the Line between the Town of Ipswich and Topsfield Met on y^e Day above Said and Perambulated the S^d Line and Renewed the bounds by Marking Trees and Laying Stones together as Witness our hands the Day and year afore s^d

John Wildes	} Committe	Daniel Heard	} Committe	
Tobijah Perkins	} for Topsfield	Aaron Potter		} for Ipswich
		Phillip Fowler		

A True Copy Attest.

Jacob Peabody Town Cler.

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified as y^e Law Directs for Voting are hereby Notified and Warned to Assemble and Meet together at the Meeting house in Said Topsfield on Tuesday the fourth Day of March Next Ensuing the Date hereof at Eight of the Clock in y^e forenoon.

1 To Choose a Town Clerk, and Constables, & Selectmen, and other Officers annually to be Chosen in Said Town and to give in their Votes for a County Tresurer, and a County Register.

2 To See what the Town will Do about Mr Emersons Salary: or whether they will Make him any allowance for this year

3 To Allow Bills of Charge

4 To See what y^e Town will Do with y^e interest of the Loan Money

Dat^d Topsfield February y^e 25: A: D: 1739

Dan Clarke	Daniel Redington	} Selectmen	
Constable of Topsfield	John Wildes		} of Topsfield
	Tobijah Perkins		
	Benj ^a Towne		

A True Copy of y^e Notification attest Jacob Peabody Town Cle

At A Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March y^e 4th 1739/40

- 1 Cap^t Ivory Hovey is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting
Voted
- 2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y^e year Ensuing
Voted
- 3 Nathaniel Capen & Solomon Gould are Chosen Constables
for y^e year Ensuing Voted
- 4 Richard Towne is Chosen Town Treasurer for y^e Ensuing
year Voted
- 5 Cap^t Joseph Gould, Benj^a Towne, Daniel Redington, Phineas
Redington and Tho^s Baker are Chosen Selectmen for y^e Ensuing
year Voted
- 6 Lieut^t Tobijah Perkins, Ephraim Wildes, & Israel Clark are
Chosen Tything men for y^e year Ensuing Voted
- 7 Israel Town is Chosen Sealler of Leather for a year Voted
- 8 George Bixbe, Dan Clark, & Jacob Averill are Chosen
Surveyers of highways for y^e Ensuing year Voted
- 9 David Balch, Joshua Towne, and Jacob Robinson are
Chosen fence viewers for y^e year Ensuing Voted
- 10 Aaron Estey, and George Bixby, are Chosen Hogreaves
for y^e year Ensuing Voted
- 11 Mr Joseph Herrick and Mr Thomas Gould are Chosen to
Prosecute the Violators of the Late Act Concerning Deer Voted
- 12 The Town Agreed to give to the Reverend Mr Emerson
fifty pounds for this present year, besides his Settled Salary Voted
- 13 The Town allowed Six pounds five Shillings to y^e School
Committee viz David Commings Matthew Peabody & Nathaniel
Porter Jun^r to pay the School master for keeping School one
Month & nine Days Voted 6—5—0
- 14 The Town Allowed two pound two Shillings & Eight
pence for Plank & Timber to mend falls Bridge in y^e year
1739 Voted 2: 2: 8
- 15 The Town Allowed three Shillings to Luke Averill for
Timber to mend the Bridge by Thomas Howlets in the
year 1739 0:3:0
- 16 The Town Allowed one pound & Six pence to Thomas
Perkins a former Constable it being for an Abatement of
Zacheus Gould rates 1: 0: 6
- 17 The Town allowed one pound & Six pence to Thomas Per-
kins a former Constable it being for an abatement of one head
out of mr Tho^s Goulds rates Voted 1—0—6
- 18 The Town Allowed one pound & Six pence to Dan Clark
a former Constable it being for an abatement of Eben^r Clarks
rates Voted 1—0—6
- 19 The Town Allowed two Shillings 0—2—0 to Dan Clark Con-

stable for warning the widow Clough out of Town & Entering the warrant in y^e Court Records Voted

20 The Town allowed to the Trustees viz Eliezer Lake Lieu^t Tobijah Perkins and Jacob Peabody all the Towns part of the interest of the Last fift part of y^e £60000 Loan Voted

The Several Officers that were Chosen at y^e above Said Meeting of Whom an Oath is by Law Required all took the oath belonging to their Respective offices on the Same Day of Said Meeting Excepting Lieu^t Tobijah Perkins Nath^l Capen, & Jacob Robinson

March y^e 4th 1739 or 40 then Rec^d of Mr Thomas Perkins Constable of Topsfield the Sum of Seven pounds and Seven Shillings & Nine pence in full of his Rates Committed to him to Collect and to pay into My self I Say Received by me Ivory Hovey former Town Treasurer

Topsfield March y^e 5th 1739 or 40 then Rec^d of Mr Dan Clark Constable the Sum of Eight pounds and three Shillings and nine pence in full of his Rates Committed to him to Collect and pay into me I say received by me Ivory Hovey former Treasurer for Said Town

Boston March 13th 1739

Rec^d of Mr Thomas Perkins Constable of Topsfield fifteen pounds one Shilling and Seven pence in New Tenor in full for mr Treasurer Foye

£15: 1: 7

P Eben^r Swan

the three Receipts above written are True Copies attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

We the Subscribers being appointed and impowered by our Respective Towns, viz: Topsfield and Wenham to Settle and renew bounds between our Said Towns there having been Some Misunderstanding of the bounds next or near Wenham Causway: We having Mett this Thirtyfirst Day of March 1740: have Mutually agreed, and Settled & renewed the bounds between our Said Towns as followeth; Begining at the White oak Stump of a Tree Lately fell Which was Salems North Easterly Corner bounds, thence Twelve Poles Easterly to a stake and heap of Stones by the highway Leading from Wenham Causway to Bunkers Meadow: on the west Side of Said Way, from thence to the Plump of Maples (So Called) but now a stump: and as the Brook Runs to a stake And heap of stones at the going over

the Brook from thence to the South Easterly Corner of Pigdens Meadow, and So to the River according to y^e Settlement in 1694 and furthermore it is Agreed that this our Settlement shall not Effect any mans property and in Confirmation of all herein above Written we have hereunto Set our hands the Day and year above Said.

John Moulton	} Committe for Wenham	Joseph Gould	} Committe for Topsfield
Samuel Kimball		John Wildes	
Tho ^s Tarbox		Jacob Peabody	
John Gott			
Nathaniel Brown			

This is a True Copy of the original attest Jacob Peabody T:
Cler

Topsfield October 30th 1739

Rec^d of Mr Ivory Hovey Town Treasurer y^e Sum of Sixty five pounds in full of the within written order & y^e full of My Salary to September 2: 1739. by me John Emerson Clerk

A True Copy Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Topsfield such as are Qullified as the Law Directs for Voting: are Warned to Assemble and Meet together at the Meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the Eighteenth Day of March Currant at one of the Clock after noon

1 To Choose Jury men according to Warrant

2 To Choose a Committe to Supply the Town with a School-master for the Ensuing year

3 To See if y^e Town will give Liberty for Swine to go at Large as the Law Directs

4 To allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield March y^e Seventh Day Anno: Domini 1739/40

Solomon Gould	Joseph Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable of	Phineas Redington	
Topsfield	Thomas Baker	
	Benj ^a Towne	

At A Legal Town meeting in Topsfield March y^e 18: 1739/40

1 Cap^t Joseph Gould is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting
Voted

2 Mr George Bixby is Chosen Grand jury Man for y^e year
Ensuing Voted

3 Lieu^t Tobijah Perkins, & Mr Thomas Baker are Chosen to Serve on Jury of Tryalls at y^e next Inferiour Court to be holden at Ipswich
Voted

4 Mr Luke Averill, Jacob Averill & Dan Clark are Chosen a Committe to Supply the Town with a Schoolmaster for the year Ensuing Voted

5 it is agreed that Swine Should go at Large for y^e year Ensuing Voted

6 The Town allowed to John Perkins Thirty Shillings for taking Care of, and for Sweeping the Meeting house the Last year Voted 1 10 0

7 The Town allowed to Nath^l Capen Eighteen shillings Voted 0 18 0

8 The Town Allowed to Cor^l John Wildes one pound Eighteen Shillings for y^e Glasser Voted 1 18 0

9 The Town Allowed to Thomas Baker two Shillings for Warning Michael Holdgate & family to Depart out of Town Voted 0 2 0

The affairs of the afore said Meeting Were Delivered to me by Benj^a Towne attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified as the Law Directs for Voting are hereby Notified & Warned to Convene and Meet together at the Meeting house in Topsfield on Munday the Nineteenth Day of May Instant at two of the Clock in the after noon

1 To Make Choice of a Sutable Man to Represent the Town at the General Court the year Ensuing

2 To Choose a Committe to Lay out to Zacheus Perkins the Land the Town agreed to Exchange with him in the forty acres

3 To See if the Town will agree to build a School house

4 To See if the Town will agree to fence the Burying Place

5 To See if y^e Town will Exchang a piece of Land with the Reverend Mr John Emerson in y^e Parsonage

6 To Allow Bills of Charge

Topsfield Dat^d May y^e 12th 1740

Nathaniel Capen	Joseph Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable of Topsfield	Daniel Redington	
	Phineas Redington	
	Tho ^s Baker	

A True Copy of the Notification Attest Jacob Peabody T : C :

At A Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield May 19th 1740

1 Mr Nathaniel Bordman was Chosen to Represent the Town at y^e General Court the year Ensuing Voted

2 Mr Daniel Redington is Chosen Moderator for s^d Meeting

3 Thomas Baker was Chosen Clerk for Said Meeting

4 It was put to Vote whether the Town would Choose a Committe to Lay out to Zacheus Perkins the Land that y^e Town agreed to Exchange with him in the forty acres and it Passed in the Negative

5 It was put to Vote Whether the Town would Erect a fence to Enclose the Burying Place Voted

6 It was put to Vote whether the Town would Exchange a Piece of Land Lying at y^e East Corner of the Parsonage for so Much Land Joyning to the Parsonage Else where Equevilent there to with the Reverend mr John Emerson. Voted

7 It was put to Vote whether the Town would abate 2: 5: 6 of Zacheus Perkinses Rates Made in the year 1739. voted

8 It was put to Vote whether the Town would allow to Cap^t John Wildes Seven pound & Twelve shillings for building Twenty Rods of Stone wall on y^e Parsonage. voted. 7—12—0

9 It was Put to vote whether the Town would allow to Cap^t John Wildes Twenty Shillings for making a pair of Stocks voted 1—0—0

10 It was put to Vote whether the Town would allow to Cap^t John Wildes Eight shillings for mending up the Parsonage fence voted 0—8—0

Mr Daniell Redington who was Moderator of S^d Meeting Attested to the Truth of the above Said Votes. attest Jacob Peabody

The free holders and other Inhabitants of Topsfield that are Quallified as the Law Directs for Voting are warned to Assemble and Meet together at the Meeting house in Said Town on Tuseday the Twenty third Day of Sep^t Instant at one of y^e Clock after noon

1 To Chose Jury men for Newbery Court according to warrant

2 To see how much Money they will raise to Defray Town Charges this year.

3 To See if y^e Town will Choose an agent or agents to Petition to y^e General Court that our Neighbours in Ipswich farms May be Sett of to Topsfield

4 To See if the Town will Give order y^t y^e County Rate May be paid our Town Treasurer

5 To Reckon with the Treasurers of Said Town.

6 To See if y^e Town will fence y^e Parsonage with a Stone wall

7 To See if the Town will Choose a Committe to Exchange Some of the Parsonage Land with y^e Reverend Mr Emerson and to Give a Deed thereof to the Reverend mr Emerson,

Dated Topsfield September y^e 18th A: D: 1740.

Nath ^l Capen	Joseph Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable of Topsfield	Daniel Redington	
	Benj ^a Towne.	

At a Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield Sep^t y^e 23rd 1740

1 Cap^t Ivory Hovey is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting
voted

2 Mr John Gould and Mr Israel Clark are Chosen to Serve on
y^e Jury of Tryals at y^e next Inferiour Court to be holden at
Newbery Voted

y^e Town agreed y^t y^e Selectmen shall reckon with y^e Town
Treasurer voted

3 The agreed that there should be one hundred and Ten
pounds Raised to Defray the Town Charges this year Voted

4 y^e town agreed that y^e County rate shall be paid out of
y^e town Treasurer voted

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Topsfield y^t are
Quallified as the Law Directs for Voting are warned to Assemble
and meet together at y^e meeting house in Topsfield on Wednes-
day the first Day of October next Ensuing the Date hereof at
one of the Clock after noon.

1 To Choose a Committe to Exchange Some of the parsonage
Land with the Reverend Mr Emerson and to give a Deed thereof

2 To agree on a Rule or Rules to fence the parsonage with
a wall and to raise Money to Defray the charges

3 To See if the Town will make any more seats in the meet-
ing house or Do any thing to Enlarge the room in Said house
or New Seat People in Said Meeting house.

4 To See if the Town will Do anything about y^e Clay ground
Reserved for y^e Towns Use.

5 To allow Bills of Charge.

Dated Topsfield September y^e 26: 1740.

Solomon Gould	Joseph Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable of Topsfield	Daniel Redington	
	Tho ^s Baker	
	Benj ^r Towne	

At a Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield October 1: 1740

1 Cap^t Joseph Gould is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting.
Voted

2 Cap^t Joseph Gould, Cap^t John Wilds and Mr Nathaniel Averil
Jun^r are Chosen a Committe to give a Deed to the Reverend Mr
John Emerson of that Corner of the parsonage that his barn
stands on not Exceeding half an acre: and to take a Deed of

S^d Mr Emerson of So much Land in another place as Mr Emerson and S^d Committe Shall agree upon in Exchange for Said Corner, both Deeds to be made in behalf of y^e Town Voted

3 Mr Luke Averill, Mr Joseph Towne, and Cap^t John Wildes are Chosen a Committe to take Care to git the Parsonage fenced in with a good stone wall and Said Committe are to make up forty Rods of Said wall before the Last Day of Aprill next Voted

Voted the afore Said forty Rods of wall shall be made up against the road from Jacob Perkinses fence towards Mr Emersons barn

4 The Town agreed that there should be Twenty Pounds More raised to Defray Town Charges this year Voted

5 The Town agreed y^t y^e first Second and third Seats in the front gallery from the East End to the first Post Shall be Set off for y^e women Voted

6 Cap^t Joseph Gould Mr Luke Averill Mr Daniel Redington Mr Eliezer Lake & Mr Richard Towne are Chosen a Committe to Seat People in y^e Meeting house Voted

7 The Said Committe are to observe y^e following Rules or Instructions in Seating People viz To Show Respect to persons above Sixty years of age before Money in younger men. and then to Seat the Rest of the People according as they or their Predisessers have Paid to y^e Last years Rates Voted.

8 The Town Allowed Eighteen pounds to the School Committe viz Luke Averill, Jacob Averill and Dan Clark for y^e School master for keeping School three months this Summer past Voted

Topsfield March 5th 1739 or 40 then Received of mr John Perkins one of y^e former Constables one pound two shillings and two pence in full of his Rates Committed to Me to Receive of him I Say Received by me. Ivory Hovey former Treasurer for S^d Town

A True Copy attest

Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The free holders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Lawfully Quallified for Voting are Warned and Notified to Assemble and Meet together at y^e Meeting house in S^d Town, on Tuseday the third Day of March Next at nine of the Clock in the fore noon

1 To Chuse a Town Clerk, Constables, Selectmen: and other Officers Annually to be Chosen by Said Town.

2ly To See how much Money Said Town will allow to the Reverend Mr Emerson this year More than his Salary.

3 To See if the Town will clear, Alter, or Discontinue the way

that was formerly Laid out for Mr Nathaniel Porter to Come to Meeting

4ly To See if the Town will alter the way that was formerly Laid out for Mr Eliezer Lake & Lieut Zacheus Gould for them to go to meeting and Lay it out in another place more Convenient

5 To See if the Town will Chuse a Committe to Lay out the Land formerly changed with Mr Zacheus Perkins of Said Town Deceas^d in y^e forty acres So Called to the Heirs of Said Perkins or Do any other thing or things about Said Land Left for the Towns Use

6ly To See if the Town will accept of the Laying out of the way for Mr Joseph Herrick & Nath^l Porter Jun^r to go to meeting in Said Town

7ly To see if the way Laid out from the Meeting house to Cap^t Goulds Shall be two Rods Wide

8ly To Accept of the Selectmens Reckoning with y^e Town Treasurer

9ly To Allow Bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield February y^e 20th A : D ; 1740/41

Solomon Gould
Constable of Topsfield

Joseph Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Tho ^s Baker	
Benja ^a Towne	

A True Copy of the Notification Attest

Jacob Peabody T: Clerk

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield March y^e 3rd 1740/41

1 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting
Voted

2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y^e year Ensuing
Voted

3 Mr Joseph Andrew and mr Amos Dorman are Chosen Constables for y^e year
voted

4 Mr Richard Towne is Chosen Town Treasurer for y^e year Ensuing
voted

5 Lieut^t Benjamin Towne Cap^t John Wildes, Mr George Byxbe Mr Thomas Baker, And Mr Daniel Redington are Chosen Selectmen for the year Ensuing
Voted

6 Mr John Davis, Mr Dan Clark, and Ensigne Daniel Gould are Chosen Tything men for y^e year Ensuing
Voted

7 Mr John Hovey is Chosen Sealer of Leather for this year
Voted

8 Mr Thomas Dwinel, Mr Samuel Towne, and Mr David Balch are Chosen Surveyars of highways for y^e year Ensuing
Voted

9 Mr John Batchelder, Lieu^t Joseph Dorman, & Mr Samuel Bradstreet are Chosen fence Viewers for y^e year Ensuing Voted

10 Mr Mathew Peabody & Mr Thomas Dorman are Chosen Hogreeves for y^e year Ensuing Voted

11 Mr Luke Averill & Mr Dan Clark are Chosen to prosecute the Breakers of the Late act Concerning Deer voted

12 Mr Joseph Andrew haveing agreed with mr Samuel Bradstreet to Serve for him as Constable the Town accepted of Said Bradstreet in stead of S^d Andrew Voted

13 The Town agreed to give to the Riverend Mr John Emerson the Sum of fifty pounds for this year besides his stated Salary voted

14 The Town accepted of the Selectmens return of their Laying out a way for Mr Joseph Herrick and Mr Nathaniel Porter Jun^r to go to Meeting Voted

Whereas the Town of Topsfield Did formerly agree to Exchange Some Land, Lying on the South Side of the River with Zacheus Perkins of Said Town for Land the Said Perkins should Lay Down to y^e Town on the North Side of the River: and it being Left to two Men to Determine how much Land y^e S^d Perkins should have for that he Laid Down to the Town they Determined that S^d Perkins should have thirteen acres As by the former Records may more fully appear And the Said Perkins being Since Deceased and there being no Record that the Said thirteen Acres was Ever Laid out Therefore

15 Voted that Cap^t John Wildes, Mr Richard Towne Mr George Byxbe, Mr Nathaniel Averill Jun^r, & Jacob Peabody be a Committee to Lay out the Said thirteen acres of Land to the Heirs of y^e Said Zacheus Perkins. According to the Determination of Said two men

16 Upon hearing the Report of the Selectmen about the Difficulty of the way that was formerly Laid out for Mr Nath^l Porter to Come to Meeting in the Town Doe Now Agree to Alter the Said Way, from Mr Porters till it Comes to the Southerly End of Mr Jacob Townes & Mr Jacob Redingtons Land viz from Mr Nathaniel Porters through Mr Joseph Herricks Land & So into y^e way Lately Laid out for Mr Joseph Herrick and Nathaniel Porter Jun^r to Come to Meeting in: and so Along Said way to the afore S^d Townes and Redingtons Land. Voted

17 The Town Agreed to Alter the way that was formerly Laid out for Mr Lake and others to Come to Meeting in: it appearing to the Town to be very inconvenient where it was Laid out: the way now to be as follows from Mr Lakes house on his own Land by the Stone wall that is between Said Lakes

& Goulds Land till it Comes to a pair of bars between S^d Lakes and Goulds Land. thence along the way as the s^d Lake and Goulds go to meeting along by Thomas Perkinses house & out into the Country Road by Sd Perkinses shop voted

18 The Town Agreed that the way which Leads from the Meeting house to Cap^t Joseph Goulds shall be two Rods Wide Except at Mr Capens Causway So Called Voted

19 The Town Allowed Nineteen Shillings & three pence to Mr Phineas Redington it being an Abatement of his Rates for William Perkinses head in the year 1739. Voted

20 The Town agreed that Jedediah Danforths Rates As in M^r Tho^s Bakers List shall be abated or Discounted with the Treasurer Voted

21 The Town agreed that A[n]drew Bradstreets Rates for the year 1739 in Constable Bakers List shall be abatted Voted

22 The Town Allowed to Mr John Perkins one pound fifteen shillings for Sweeping the Meeting house the Last year Voted

23 The Town Allowed to Mr Dan Clark twelve Shillings for Timber to mend the high ways in y^e year 1740 Voted 0—12—0

24 The Town allowed to Jacob Averill Eighteen [shillings] for Timber to Mend y^e high ways in y^e year 1740 Voted 0—18—0

The Several Officers y^t were Chosen at y^e above Said Meeting were Sworn as the Law Directs

Topsfield December y^e 7th 1740

We the Subscribers have Laid out a way for Mr Joseph Herrick & Nathaniel Porter Jun^r to Come to Meeting in Said Town from S^d Nath^l Porters House as the Road Now runs or most beatten path along by Mr Herricks and So on till it Comes to the High way Laid out Between Mr Jacob Townes & Mr Jacob Redingtons their Land, two Rods wide

Joseph Gould	}	Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Redington		
Benj ^a Towne		
Tho ^s Baker		

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of Topsfield that are Qualified as the Law Directs for Voting are warned to Assemble and meet together at the Meeting House in Said Town on Tuseday the Twenty fourth Day of March Currant at one of the Clock after noon

1 To Chuse Jury men according to warrant

2 To See if the Town will give the Reverend Mr Emerson that piece of the Parsonage Land that they have Voted to Exchange with him

3 To See if the Town will give order to have any Rail fence made about the Parsonage this year

4 To Choose a Committe to Supply the Town with a Schoolmaster for y^e year Ensuing

5 for the Town to bring in their Proxies for a County Register of Deeds: and a County Treasurer

6 To See if y^e Town will Agree, that Land Manufactory Bills Shall Defray Town Charges

7. To See if y^e Town will give Liberty for Swine to go at Large as the Law Directs

8. To allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield March the 16: A: D 1740/41

Amos Dorman	John Wilds	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable of Topsfield	Daniel Redington	
	George Bixby	
	Tho ^s Baker	
	Benj ^a Towne	

A True Copy of the Notification Attest

Jacob Peabody Town Cler

At a Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield March y^e 24th 1740/1

1 Mr George Bixby is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting

voted

2 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen to Serve on y^e grand jury for y^e year Ensuing

voted

3 Mr John Davis & Mr Tho^s Dorman are Chosen to Serve on the Jury of Tryals at the Next Inferior Court to be holden at Ipswich

voted

4 The Town Agreed that y^e Land Bank or Manufactory Bills Shall Defray Town Charges

Voted

5 Mr Israel Clark, Mr Daniel Redington & Mr Ephraim Wildes are Chosen a Committe to Supply the Town with a Schoolmaster for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

6 The Town agreed that Swine Shall go at Large this year According as the Law Gives Liberty

Voted

7 the Town allowed one pound thirteen Shillings to Mr Eliezer Lake it being an abatement of his Son Eliezers Rates

Voted

1—13—0

8 The Town Allowed Twenty two pound to the School Committe to pay for three Months & Twenty Days Schoolling

Voted

22—0—0

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield that are Quallified as the Law Directs for Voting are warned

to assemble and meet Together at the meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the Nineteenth Day of May Currant at three of y^e clock after noon

1 To Chuse a Representative to Serve at y^e general Court

2 To See if y^e Town will agree that their Representative Shall Draw his wages out of the Town Treasury

3 To See if y^e Town will order the front Gallary to be Divided by a peition and order a man to Do Said work

4 To See if y^e Town will give, or Sell, to Doc^t Richard Dexter, a Convenient Room for a Pew in our meeting house

5 To allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield May y^e 12th A: D: 1741.

Samuel Bradstreet
Constable

John Wildes	} Selectmen of Topsfield
George Bixby	
Benj ^a Towne	
Tho ^s Baker	

A True Copy of the notification Attest

Jacob Peabody Town Cler.

At A Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield May y^e 19th 1741.

1 Mr Nathaniel Bordman is Chosen to Represent the Town at the general Court Voted

2 The Town agreed that Mr: Bordman y^e Present Representative Shall Draw his wages for his Service at y^e General Court this year out of the Town Treasury. Except the Representatives Shall be paid by the province in General this year Voted

3 The Town made Choice of Nathaniel Averill Jun^r to make a Pertition in y^e front gallary to part that End y^t is Set off for the women; from the Mens part of Said gallary Voted

4 y^e Town Allowed Nineteen Shillings & three pence to Dan Clark it being An Abatment for John Curtises head: Said Curtis being Dead before the Said Clark who was a Constable had the Rates Committed to him voted

5 The Town allowed to Cap^t Joseph Gould Twelve Shillings, and Six pence to pay for glazing the windo by the womens gallary Stairs in the Meeting house Voted

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield, that are Quallified as the Law Directs for Voting: are warned & Notified to Assemble & Meet together at the Meeting house in Said Town on Wednesday the Twenty fourth Day of June Currant at three of y^e clock afternoon

1 To See if the Town will pass a Vote if they Chuse a Representative that he Shall Receive his wages of our Town Treasurer for his Service

2 To See if y^e Town will Chuse a Representative according to Precept.

3 To accept the Return of the Committe that was appointed to Lay out the Land by the Clay ground So Called to the Heirs of Zacheus Perkins Deceased

4 To See if the Town will free the family of Mr Joseph Towne from working at any other highway Except that privat way that Leadeth from S^d Townes house by Thomas Dwinels and So along by Amos Dormans to the County Road

5 To see if the Town will free Mr Thomas Perkins from working at any other highway he keeping the bridge & Case-way in good Repair that Lyeth between his house and the County Road

6 To See if the Town will Chuse a Committe to Repair y^e meeting House. 7^{thly} To See if the Town will purches Some part of the front gallary hind-Pew for y^e women

Dat^d Topsfield June the 18th A: D 1741.

Samuel Bradstreet

Constable

John Wildes

Daniel Redington

Tho^s Baker

Benj^a Towne

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

This is a True Copy of the Notification.

Attest Jacob Peabody T: C:

At a Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield June y^e 24th 1741.

1 Cap^t Ivory Hovey is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting.

2 The Town agreed that y^e Man that Shall now be Chosen Representative Shall Receive his wages for his Service as Representative this year out our Town Treasury Voted

3 Mr Nathaniel Bordman is Chosen Representative Voted

4 The Town agreed that y^e Selectmen Shall take Care to get the Meeting house Repaired Voted

5 The Town Accepted the Committies Return of Laying out thirteen acres of Land on y^e South Side of y^e River to the Heirs of Zacheus Perkins Late of Topsfield Deceased Voted

Topsfield June the 15th 1741 We the Subscribers being Chosen by the Town of Topsfield above Said for to Set out thirteen acres of Land Lying on the South Side of the River in Topsfield afore s^d unto the Heirs of Zacheus Perkins of Topsfield Deceased Accordingly we have Set out Said thirteen acres of Land: Which Land is bounded as followeth. Viz Beginning at a Certain White oak Tree by the Edge of Bunkers Meadow So Called thence South-Easterly and then Southerly partly with Bunkers Meadow and partly with Wenham meadows, to a Certain Stake Stand-

ing in the Edge of a Little brook, Which Stake bares from a Remarkable Stump, East 33 Degrees & 1-4 South according to the Needle and is in Distance from S^d Stump Six pole & Seven Links of the Chain: thence west 23 Degrees North according to the Needle about Sixty and two poles to a Stake by Land of Lieu^t Tobijah Perkins, thence North Easterly with Land of Said Perkins: forty Pole and an half to the first Mentioned bounds which Land within S^d bounds Contains thirteen acres. according to our best Skill and Judgment.

Jacob Peabody
John Wildes
George Bixby
Richard Towne
Nath^l Averill Junr

A True Copy of the return Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Boston June 30th 1741 Received of the Rev^d mr John Emerson, Nine pound fifteen Shillings & three pence: being the Contribution of the Town of Topsfield for y^e Sufferors by the Late fire at South Carolina: Jacob Wendell one of y^e Comm^{tte} of the Gov^r and Councill

A True Copy of the Receipt Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

there was five pound Eleven Shillings More Contributed at y^e Same time but it was in Manufactory bills and the above S^d Wendell would not take it, and mr Emerson brought it home again and Delivered it to Me and Informing the [town] thereof at a Town meeting Sep^t 25th 1741 I was Desired to put it into the Town Treasury.
Jacob Peabody

The Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Lawfully Quallified for Voting are hereby Notified & warned to Conven and Meet at the Meeting house in Said Town on Fry-day the Twenty fifth Day of Sep^t Instant at two of the Clock

1 To Chuse Jury men to Serve on the Jury of Tryals at Newbury Court.

2 To See what Money y^e Town will Raise to Defray Town Charges the year Ensuing

3 To See what the Town will further act Referring to the Land: which Zacheus Perkins Sold on the South Side of the River adjoyning to the Clay ground more than was his Right to Sell

4 To Allow Bills of Charge.

Dated Topsfield Sep^t 18th 1741.

Samuel Bradstreet
Constable.

Daniel Redington	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Wildes	
George Bixby	
Tho ^s Baker	

A True Copy of y^e Notification attest

Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield Sep^t y^e 25th 1741.

1 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this meeting.

Voted

2 Mr Thomas Howlet & mr Thomas Perkins are Chosen to Serve on the Jury of Tryals at y^e next Inferiour Court to be holden at Newbury

Voted

3 The Town agreed that the Selectmen should Raise a Tax of one hundred and Thirty pounds to Defray the Town Charges

Voted

4 Cap^t John Wildes. Lieu^t Benjamin Towne & Mr Thomas Baker are Chosen agents for y^e Town to Recover the Land which Zacheus Perkins hath Sold on y^e South Side of y^e River, adjoining to the Clay ground: More than he had a good right to Sell: and Said agents are hereby fully Impowered to agree about S^d Land or to Sue for the Same and Prosecute that affair in the Law, as they, or the Major part of them Shall See Cause and the Town will bear them out in all their Lawfull proceedings in S^d affair & pay their Cost

Voted

5 The Town allowed 20^l To the School Committe viz Daniel Redington Ephraim Wildes & Israel Clark. to pay the School master for three Months and Ten Days Service in keeping School.

Voted 20—0—0

6 The Town allowed three pound Seventeen Shillings to Israel Clark & Dan Clark for Making Eleven Rods of Stone wall About the parsonage this Summer

Voted 3—17—0

7 The Town allowed five pound Seventeen Shillings & Six pence to Thomas Dwinel a Surveyer for two hundred and fifty feet of plank and thirty five feet of Timber for the River Bridge

voted 5—17—6

8 The town allowed one pound Nineteen Shillings to Cap John Wildes and Luke Averill for Twenty Railes & Twelve posts and for four Days work in menging the Parsonage fence the Last Spring

Voted 1—19—0

9 The Town allowed one pound to Samuel Towne a Surveyer for thirty Eight feet and one half foot of Timber for the river bridge.

Voted 1—0—0

11 The Town allowed thirteen shillings to Thomas Dwinel a

Surveyer for Timber to Set up on y^e Sides of y^e River bridge
voted 0—13—0

12 The Town allowed two Shillings to George Bixby for returning the warning of Samuel Masties out of Town

Voted 0—2—0

13 The Town allowed 1—13—0 to Constable Capen as abatement of John Holdgates head
1—13

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield, Lawfully Quallified for Voteing, are hereby Notified And warned, to Convene at the Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday the Second Day of March Next at Nine a Clock in y^e Morning

1 To Chuse a Town Clark Constables Selectmen and other officers Annually to be Chosen as the Law Directs

2 To See what the Town will allow the Reverend: M^r Emerson for the year Ensuing More than his Sallary

3 To See if the Town will Chuse a Committe to Sell the Land belonging to them in the forty acres So Called or to act what the Town shall think proper thereon

4 To See if the Town will order the County Rate to be paid out of y^e Town Treasury

5 To See if the Town will hear and Answer the Request of Mr Eliezer Lake Referring to a highway

6 To Reckon with the Town Treasurer

7 To Alow bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield February y^e 16th 1741/2

Samuel Bradstreet Constable	John Wildes	} Selectmen of Topsfield
	Benj ^a Towne	
	George Bixby	
	Tho ^s Baker	

A True Copy of the Notification,

attest Jacob Peabody T: Cler

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield March y^e 2: 1741/2

1 Cap^t Ivory Hovey is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting
voted

2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y^e year Ensuing
Voted

3 Mr Daniel Redington and mr Thomas Gould Jun^r are Chosen Constables for y^e year Ensuing
Voted

4 Mr Richard Towne is Chosen Town Treasurer for y^e year Ensuing
Voted

5 Mr George Bixby mr Thomas Baker mr Daniel Gould mr

Matthew Peabody and mr Richard Towne are Chosen Selectmen
for y^e year Ensuing voted

6. M^r Thos. Howlett & m^r Jacob Averill are Chosen Thything-
men for y^e year ensuing voted.

7. M^r Joseph Edwards is chosen Sealer of Leather for y^e year
ensuing voted.

8. Cap^t Ivory Hovey, M^r David Cummings & M^r Samuel Per-
kins are chosen Surveyers for this year voted.

9. M^r Joseph Andrew, Mr Ephraim Wildes & Mr William
Perkins are chosen fence viewers for y^e year ensuing voted

10. M^r Jacob Robinson & M^r Cornelius Balch are Chosen
Hogreaves for y^e year ensuing voted

11. M^r Joseph Towne & m^r Nathanael Boardman are Chosen
to prosecute y^e breakers of y^e act referring to killing of Deer
voted

12. The Town agreed to give to y^e Reverend M^r John Emer-
son y^e Sum of fifty pounds equal to y^e old Tenour Bills for this
year besides his Salary voted

13. Capt. John Wildes, Lieut. Benjamin Towne & m^r Thomas
Baker are chosen Agents for y^e Town to recover y^e Land
which some of y^e Heirs of Zacheus Perkins late of Topsfield
Deceased viz. Zacheus Perkins of Rowly & William Perkins
late of Sutton Deceased Have sold on y^e South Side of y^e
River in Topsfield adjoyning to y^e Clay ground in y^e forty acres,
So called, which of Right belongs to y^e Town of Topsfield &
S^d Agents are hereby Impowered to agree with y^e S^d Zacheus
Perkins of Rowly, about s^d land, or with any other person or
persons y^t shall be lawfully Impowered for y^t purpose, & S^d
Agents, if need be, to give a Quit Claim thereof in behalf of
y^e Town, And if they do not agree then y^e S^d agents are to Sue
y^e person or persons y^t are in possession of S^d land & to prose-
cute y^e Affair from Court to Court till y^e matter be fully De-
termined by y^e Law, & y^e Major part of S^d Agent agreeing in
S^d affair it Shall be Esteemed valid & good & y^e Town will bear
them out in all their lawfull proceedings in S^d Affair & pay
their Cost voted.

14. The Town agreed y^t y^e County Rate now sent for Shall
be paid out of y^e Town Treasury voted

15. The Town agreed y^t y^e way from m^r Eliezer Lake's
House to y^e County Road by m^r Israel Clark's Shall be discon-
tined & made void from S^d Lake's House till it comes to y^e Barrs
where y^e Goulds come out into S^d Lake's land to go to meeting
voted

16. The Town agreed y^t y^e Selectmen Shall reckon with
y^e Town Treasurer voted

17 The Selectmen having reckoned with y^e Town Treasurer
y^e Town accepted their return thereof voted

18. The Town allowed fifteen Shillings to Samuel Towne for
timber to mend y^e highways in y^e year past voted

19. The Town allowed five Shillings to Samuel Towne for
timber He had of M^r Samuel Bradstreet to mend y^e highways
1741. voted

20. The Town allowed to Nathanael Porter Junior one pound
thirteen Shillings it being an abatement of y^e Rates for his mans
head in y^e year 1740 voted

21 The Town allowed to Cap^t Ivory Hovey Six Shillings for
timber to mend y^e highway in y^e year 1741. voted

22. The Town allowed to m^r John Perkins two pounds for
taking care of y^e Meeting House y^e year past voted

23. The Town allowed to m^r David Balch eighteen Shillings
for timber He had of Cap^t Joseph Gould & Simon Gould to mend
y^e River Bridge y^e last year voted

24. The Town allowed to y^e Assessors Six Shillings per day
for each man, for taking valuation of y^e Towns Estate y^e year
past voted

25. The Town allowed three Shillings to mr Joseph Andrew
for bringing a ladder from M^r Robert Perkins's to y^e Meeting
House voted

26. M^r Dan Clark is chosen pound Keeper for y^e year ensuing
voted

All the officers Chosen at the afore Said Meeting of whom
an [oath] is by Law required: Made oath to the faithfull Dis-
charge of their respective offices the Same Day of Said Meeting,
after it was over. Except William Perkins & Cornelious Balch

Samuel Curtis being Chosen Haward, or field Driver of
Stickey Meadow Common field: was Sworn the faithfull Dis-
charge of that trust before y^e Selectmen of Topsfield on y^e 2^d of
March 1741/2 Attest Jacob Peabody T: Cler

Boston March 13: 1739. Received of m^r Dan Clark Con-
stable of Topsfield Twenty Six pounds New Tenor in part for
mr Treas^r Foye P Eben^r Swan

Boston 13 Decem^r 1740. Rec^d of mr Dan Clarke Constable
of Topsfield three pound Nineteen Shillings New Tenor. P
hand Nath^l Borman. W^m Foye Treas^r

Boston 5 Janu^r 1741 Rec^d of Mr Dan Clarke Const^a of Tops-
field Ten pounds Nine Shillings, four pence New Tenor in full
W^m Foye Treas^r

Topsfield Jan^u y^e 2nd 1741/2 Rec^d of Mr Dan Clarke Constable of Topsfield Six Shillings and Seven pence in full of all his Rates to me by me Richard Towne Treas^r for Said Town

These four Receipts above written are true Copies

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Cler

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield, Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby warned to Assemble at the Meeting house in Said Town: on Tuseday y^e Twenty third Day of March Instant att two of the Clock after noon

1 To Chuse a man to Serve on the Grand Jury

2 To Chuse two men to Serve on y^e Jury of Tryals at Ipswich Court

3 To Chuse a School Committee

4 To See if y^e Town will agree y^t Swine Shall go at Large this year

5 To See if y^e Town will build a School house on y^e North Side of the River at the Cost and charge of the Said North Side

6 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield March y^e 16th Anno: Domini 1641/2

George Bixby	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Thomas Baker	
Matthew Peabody	
Daniel Gould	
Richard Towne	

This is a True Copy of y^e Notification

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield March y^e 23rd 1741/2

1 Lieu^t Benjamin Towne is Chosen Moderator for this meeting: Voted

2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Grand Jury man for y^e year Ensuing Voted

3 Mr Luke Averill and mr Dan Clarke are Chosen to Serve on the Jury of Tryals at the next Inferiour Court to be at Ipswich Voted

4 Mr Jacob Dorman, mr Thomas Baker and mr Jacob Robinson are Chosen a Committee to provide a Schoolmaster for the Town for the year Ensuing Voted

5 The Town agreed that Swine should go at Large this year According as the Law Gives Liberty Voted

We the Subscribers being appointed to Perambulate and Renew the bounds between Topsfield & Salem, Accordingly Met on y^e 27. Day of Aprill 1742, and renewed the bounds Begining at a white oak Stump with a heap of Stones round it, near Wenham Causey, and from thence to a black or Red Oak Stump, with Stones round it, Standing in Gotts orchard, and from thence to a heap of Stones near y^e Corner of Tho^s Dwinells pasture, and from thence to a heap of Stones Near Nickollses brook

Eben^r Bowditch

Daniel Marble

Geo Curwen

This is a True Copy of y^e return of perambulation with Salem 1742 attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of y^e Town of Topsfield, Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs you are hereby required to Convene at the Meeting House in Topsfield on Tuseday the Eighteenth Day of May Currant at two of y^e Clock after noon

1 To Chuse one good and Lawfull man to Represent the Town at y^e Great and General Court the year Ensuing

2 To See if the Town will agree to build two School houses one on y^e North Side and the other on y^e South Side of the River as it may best Serve for y^e Convenience of the Town and Chuse a Committee to Do the work

3 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield May y^e Seventh Day Anno: Domini 1742

Thomas Gould Jun^r
Constable

George Bixby
Tho^s Baker

Matthew Peabody
Daniel Gould

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

At a Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield May y^e 18th 1742.

1 Jacob Peabody is Chosen to Represent the Town at y^e General Court voted

2 Cap^t John Wilde is Chosen Moderator to order y^e other affairs of this meeting Voted

3 The Town Allowed Eighteen pound old Tenor bills, to the School Committee to pay mr Nathaniel Rogers for keeping School three months in y^e Last year Voted 18—0—0

4 The Towne allowed five shillings to Cap^t John Wilds, and mr Dan Clark for mending up the Parsonage fence this Spring Voted 0—5—0

5 The Town allowed three Shillings to mr Matthew Peabody

for gitting a warrant Recorded of Jane Bartoos being warned
out of Town 0—3—0

Whereas Cap^t John Wildes was Chosen Clerk for y^e Proprietors
of the Westerly part of bare Hill So Called

and mr Richard Towns, chosen Haward or field Driver of the
Common field Called Bunkers Meadows, and mr George Bixby
Chosen Clerk, and Doc^t Richard Dexter and mr Samuel Towne
Chosen field Driver of Plain Meadow Common field, they were
all Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their respective offices.
before the Selectmen of Topsfield in May: 1742:

We Whose Names are under Written being a Committe
Chosen and appointed by the Selectmen of Topsfield and Box-
ford to perambulate and renew bounds between the Said Tops-
field and Boxford. from y^e Apple tree Cap^t Perleys field, to a
Stake and heap of Stones at the South Easterly Corner of Mr
Bakers farm now in Boxford from thence to a Dam Called
Andrews Dam near Mr Thomas Goulds house and from thence
being the place where the water now runs under S^d Dam. thence
Southerly to a Stake and heap of Stones by the fishing Brook
on the Easterly Side of y^e Rivilet Runing into Said Brook and
then as the S^d Brook Runs into the River Called Ipswich river
then up Said River to Middleton Line and Agreeably we have
Meet on Aprill y^e 28th 1742 and have Renewed the above
S^d bounds

Dan Clarke
Daniel Gould
Jacob Smith
John Andrew

A True Copy of y^e return of Perambulation with Boxford
Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Tops-
field Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby Notified
to Assemble and Meet at the Meeting house on Tuseday the fif-
teenth Day of June Currant at four of the Clock afternoon

1 Then and there Persuant to an Act made by the Great and
General Court in y^e year one thousand Seven hundred forty and
one; To Accept of a List taken by the Selectmen, of Such
Persons Liable by Law, and well Quallified to Serve on y^e Petit
Juries: and put their names: brought by the Selectmen on Sep-
erate pieces of paper into a box provided for that purpose and
Deliver the Same to the Town Clerk to be kept under Lock and
Key

Dat^d Topsfield June y^e tenth Annoque Domini 1742

Thomas Gould Jun ^r	George Bixby	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable	Daniel Gould	
	Matthew Peabody	
	Rich ^d Towne	
	Tho ^s Baker.	

This is a True Copy of y^e Notification attest

Jacob Peabody T : Cle

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield June y^e 15th 1742.

1 Mr George Bixby is Chosen Moderator for s^d Meeting

Voted

2 Thomas Baker is Chosen Clerk for Said meeting

Voted

The Names of the Several persons which y^e Town voted to
Serve at the Superiour Courts

George Bixby	Cap ^t Joseph Gould	Cap ^t Tobijah Perkins
Cap ^t John Willdes	Jacob Peabody	Daniel Redington
David Balch	Richard Towne	Benj ^a Towne
Thomas Baker	E ^s Daniel Gould	

The Names of the Several persons who are to serve at the
Inferiour Courts

Samuel Towne	Luke Averil	Aaron Estey
Jeremiah Towne	Ephraim Willdes	William Redington
Cap ^t Ivory Hovey	Samuel Bradstreet	John Davis
Solomon Gould	Simon Gould	William Perkins
Joseph Peabody	Joseph Perkins	Nath ^l Porter Ju ^r
Simon Bradstreet	Israel Clarke	John Towne
Matthew Peabody	Dan Clarke	Nath ^l Averill Jun ^r
David Commings	Tho ^s Howlett	Jacob Robinson
Thomas Edwards	Tho ^s Gould Jun ^r	John Gould
Jacob Averill	Lieu ^t Joseph Dorman	John Batchelder
Jacob Perkins Jun ^r	Dudley Bradstreet	Nathan Hood.

George Bixby Moderator

The free holders and other inhabitants of the Town of Tops^{ld}
Qualified for Voting as the Law Directs: are hereby Notified
& Warned to Conveen & meet at the Meeting house in S^d Town
on Tuseday y^e Twenty first Day of September Instant at two of
the Clock after noon

1 To Chuse two good and Lawfull [men] to Serve on y^e Jury of
Tryals at y^e Next Inferiour Court of Common Please Next to be
holden at Newbury, on y^e Last Tuseday of September Instant
as the Law Directs

2 To See what Money the Town will raise to Defray Town Charges for this present year

3 To See if the [Town] will free Thomas Perkins from working at the highways for his Making and Mending the Bridge & Causeway on the way Leading from his house to the County Road

4 To See if The Town will hear and Answer the Request of John Prichitt Refering to his being Accommodated with a piece of Land to Erect a house upon : or Whether the Town will by any Means Accommodate him with a house to Dwell in

5 To See if y^e Town will build a house for the Conveniency of Such Persons as have no house to Dwell in and put themselves upon the Town to Provide for them

6 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield September the thirteenth Day Anna : Domini 1742

Daniel Redington.
Constable.

George Bixby
Daniel Gould
Matthew Peabody
Richard Towne
Tho^s Baker

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

A True Copy of y^e Notification attest Jacob Peabody T: Cl:

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield September y^e 21 : 1742

1 Cap^t Joseph Gould is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting
Voted

2 William Perkins & Solomon Gould are Appointed to Serve on y^e Jury of Tryals at y^e Next Inferiour Court of Common pleas to be holden at Newbury

3 The Town agreed that y^e Selectmen shall Raise a Tax of one hundred and Twenty pounds old Tenor to Defray Town Charges this year
voted

4 The Town agreed that Thomas Perkins Shall be freed from working at the highways for this year, provided he will keep the Bridge and Casway that is between his house and the County Road in good Repair
Voted

5 The Town gave Lyberty to John Prichitt to Set up a house on the Westerly Side of y^e County Road, between Samuel Howlets orchard, & Jacob Perkinses field Adjoyning to y^e Parsonage and to Injoy the Same Peaceably So Long as he y^e S^d Prichitt or his wife shall Live
Voted

6 The Town Allowed to the School Committe viz. Thomas Baker and Jacob Robinson fourteen pounds old Tenor to pay

the Schoolmaster for two Months Service in keeping School in
y^e Summer past Voted 14—0—0

7 The Town allowed to Luke Averill Eleven pound Eight-
teen Shillings old Tenor for Making Twenty Six Rods of Stone
Wall aboute the Parsonage next to bare Hill and for half a Days
work in mending fence voted 11—18—0

8 The Town Allowed to Thomas Dwinel one pound Ten
Shilling old Tenor for Timber to mend Wheel Brook Bridg[e]
in y^e year 1741 Voted 1—10—0

9 The Town Allowed to Luke Averill one pound Seven Shill-
ings old Tenor for Seventy five feet of White oak Plank for
b[r]idges 1—7—0

10 The Town Allowed to y^e Selectmen Twelve Shillings old
Tenor for the Box to hold y^e Names of y^e Persons for Jurious
Voted 0—12—0

11 The Town Allowed to David Commings Six Shillings &
Six pence for Timber voted 0—6—6

12 The Town Allowed to Captain Joseph Gould five Shillings
for Timber 0—5—0

13 The Town agreed that John Prichetts Rates for y^e year
1741 Shall be all Abated and y^t Samuel Bradstreet Shall Draw
out [the] whole Sum thereof out of the Town Treasury voted

14 The Town agreed that y^e whole of Samuel Masties: and
John Spaldens Rates for y^e year 1740 shall be abated: and that
Solomon Gould a Constable for y^t year shall Draw So much as
their Rates, out of y^e Town Treasury voted

15 The Town Allowed to Dan Clarke Nineteen Shillings it
being an abatment of Nicholas Crees Rates for year 1739.
Voted 0—19—0

We the Subscribers being Committies Appointed by Tops-
field and Middleton to Perambulate & Renew the bounds between
Said Towns: have accordingly Meet and Perambulated and
Renewed y^e bounds Begining at y^e bounds above y^e Saw mill
Where Salem and Topsfield Meets a Cross Nicholises Brook and
So Down S^d Brook, and y^e Easterly Branch thereof to Ipswich
River according to y^e General Court grant

Dated at Topsfield Aprill y^e 26 Day 1742

David Commings	} Committe	Edward Putnam	} Committe
John Gould		Benjamin Knight	
		Francis Peabody	

A True Copy Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Tops-
field, Quallified as the Law Directs for Voteing are hereby

Notified and Warned, to Convene and Meet at the Meeting house in Said Topsfield on Tuseday the Twenty Sixth Day of this Instant october at two of y^e Clock after noon

To Choose two good and Lawfull men one to Serve on y^e grand jury and one to Serve on y^e Jury of Tryals at the Next Superiour Court to be holden at Salem on y^e Second Tuseday of November
Dat^d Topsfield October 22nd 1742 Daniel Redington Constable.

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield October y^e 26th 1742

1 Cap^t Ivory Hovey, is Chosen to Serve on the grand jury, at the Next Superiour Court to be holden at Salem Voted

2 Mr Richard Towne, is appointed to Serve on y^e Jury of Tryals, at y^e next Superiour Court to be holden at Salem. Voted.

Topsfield November 29th 1742.

We the Subscribers being appointed to perambulate the Line between the Towns, Ipswich and Topsfield, Met on y^e Day above Said and Perambulated Said Line & Renewed the Bounds in Said Line by Marking Trees & Laying Rocks: In witness whereof we have Sett our hands the year & Day above Said

Daniel Heard	} Committee for Ipswich	George Bixby	} Committee for Topsfield
Thomas Adams		Tho ^s Baker	
Nath ^l Hart y ^e 3 rd		Thomas Howlet	

A True Copy of y^e return of Perambulation with Ipswich in 1741

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Cler

Boston November 30: 1742 Rec^d of Mr Samuel Bradstreet Constable of Topsfield Sixteen pounds, Eighteen Shillings, & three pence New Tenor in full
W^m Foye Treas^r

Boston Decem^r 11: 1742 Rec^d of Mr Tho^s Baker Constable of Topsfield Three pounds Eleven Shillings & four pence New Tenor in full
W^m Foye Treas^r

£3: 11: 4 The two Receipts Last Entered are True Copies
Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield, are hereby Notified & Warned to Convene and Meet at the Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday y^e first Day of March Next Ensuing the Date hereof at Eight of the Clock in y^e Morning

1 To Choose a Town Clerk, Constables and other Town officers as the Law Directs

2 To See What y^e Town will allow the Reverend Mr Emer-

son more then his Salary the year Ensuing. And to See if y^e Town will pay the County Rate out of the money Raised

3 To Choose a man to prosecute Such person or persons who Shall Neglect or Refuse to observe the Last Act in year 1741 Against y^e obstruction or passage of fish Called Alewives or other fish in their proper Courses

4 To See of the Town will Erect or build a School house or houses for y^e better Convenience of keeping School: and Choose a Committe to Erect the Same according to y^e instruction which may be given them by y^e S^d Town: And to receive y^e Reckoning Made with the Town Treasurer

5 To See if y^e Town will Abate Elijah Wildes Rate as he was Rated in y^e year 1739, or any part thereof

6 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield February y^e 15: A: D: 1742/3

Daniel Redington
Constable

George Bixby
Daniel Gould
Matthew Peabody
Tho^s Baker
Richard Towne

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

A True Copy of y^e Notification

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield March y^e 1st 1742/3

1 Lieu^t Benjamin Towne is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting Voted

2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y^e year Ensuing Voted

3 Mr Joseph Peabody & mr George Bixby are Chosen Constables for the year Ensuing Voted

4 Mr Thomas Baker, Cap^t Tobijah Perkins, mr David Comings Mr Israel Clark & mr Matthew Perbody are Chosen Selectmen for the year Ensuing Voted

5 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Treasurer for y^e year Ensuing Voted

6 mr Thomas Perkins & mr Simon Gould are Chosen Tythingmen Voted

7 mr Joseph Edwards is Chosen Sealer of Leather Voted

8 Mr John Batchelder, Cap^t Joseph Gould & Mr Nathaniel Porter Jun^r are Chosen Surveyors of highways for y^e year Ensuing Voted

9 Mr Joseph Dorman, mr John Perkins, & mr Jacob Perkins Jun^r are Chosen fence viewers for y^e year Ensuing Voted

10 Mr Joshua Towne, & mr Dan Clark are Chosen Hog-reaves. Voted

11 Mr Joseph Herrick, & mr Luke Averill are Chosen to Prosecute the breakers y^e Late Law Concerning Deer Voted

12 The Town agreed to give to y^e Reverend mr John Emerson y^e Sum of fifty pounds in bills Credit Equal to old Tenor bills for this year besides his Salary Voted

13 The Town agreed y^t y^e County Rate which is now sent for Shall be paid out of y^e Town Treasury Voted

14 Mr Thomas Baker is Chosen to Prosecute the Last Act of the General Court made in y^e year 1741 Relating to the obstructing of the passage of fish Voted

15 The Town accepted of y^e Selectmens Reckoning with y^e Town Treasurer voted

16 The Town Allowed to mr David Cummings one pound nine shillings old Tenor, for two string pieces, & Twenty feet of plank to mend the River bridge in y^e year 1742 voted 1—9—0

17 The Town Allowed to Nath^l Fuller fifteen Shillings old Tenor for three Months house Rent to keep School in

voted 0—15—0

18 The Town Allowed to mr Thomas Baker nine Shillings old Tenor: for Timber to mend the bridge by Mr Jacob Dormans voted 0—9—0

19 The Town allowed to Elijah Wildes So much as he was Rated in Topsfield in y^e year 1739 voted

The Several Persons that were Chosen to any office at the above Said Town meeting of whom an oath is by Law required were all Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their Respective offices on the first and on y^e Second Days of March 1742/3

And mr Dan Clark being appointed by the Selectmen to be pound keeper was Sworn to y^e faithfull Discharge of that trust on the Said Second Day of March

The freeholders and other Inhabitation of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified as the Law Directs for Voting are hereby Notified to Convene at the meeting House in Topsfield aforesaid, on Tuseday the Twenty Second Day this Instant March at two of y^e Clock in the after noon on Said Day

1 To Chuse Jury men according to the Courts warrant

2 To See if the Town will Give Liberty for Swine to go at Large the year Ensuing

3 To See if the Town will gitt a Book to record births and Deaths in and to Choose a School Committe for year Ensuing

4 To See if Town will Choose a Committe to fence in the burying Place on the North Side of the River Pursuant to a Vote passed in y^e Town

5 To allow bills of Charge :

Dat^d Topsfield March y^e 16th 1742/3

Joseph Peabody
Constable

Tobijah Perkins
David Commings
Mathew Peabody
Israel Clark
Tho^s Baker

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

At a Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield March y^e 22nd 1742/3

1 Lieu^t Benjamin Towne was Chosen Moderator for Said meeting voted

2 Thomas Baker was Chosen Clerk for S^d meeting voted

3 mr David Balch is Chosen to Serve on y^e grand jury for y^e year Ensuing voted

4 mr William Redington & Mr Thomas Edwards are Chosen to Serve on y^e Jury of Tryals at y^e next Inferiour Court to be holden at Ipswich voted

5 voted that Jacob Peabody Shall buy a book for y^e Towns use to Record births & Deaths in on y^e Towns Cost

6 Voted that Swine May go at Large this year according y^e Law Gives Libery

7 Voted that mr Nathaniel Capen Lieu^t Joseph Dorman and mr William Perkins be a Committe to provide the Town with a School master this year

8 Mr Bordman, Cap^t Wildes & Cap^t Perkins are Chosen a Committe to take Care that y^e Burying Place be fenced in by y^e Last Day of May Next voted

9 The Town Allowed to Dan Clark two pound Ten Shillings old Tenor for Sweeping the Meeting house the Last year voted 2—10—0

10 The Town Allowed to y^e School Committe viz Mr Jacob Dorman : mr Jacob Robinson & Thomas Baker Thirty five pounds old Tenor to pay the Schoolmaster for five months Service voted 35—0—0

Boston April 1743 Rec^d of Nath^l Capen Constable of Topsfield Twenty pounds, Seventeen Shillings & four pence New Tenor in full

£20—17—4

W^m Foye Treas^r

The Receipt above is a True Copy attest Ja : Peabody T : Cle

Topsfield Aprill y^e 11th 1743 Rec^d of m^r Jacob Peabody Town Treasurer y^e Sum of fifty pounds old Tenor y^e full of y^e within written order by me John Emerson Clerk

Topsfield May y^e 17th 1743 Recd Twenty five pounds old Ten-
or the full of the within written order by me John Emerson
Clerk.

The two receipts Last Entered are True Copies attest Jacob
Peabody Town Clerk

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Tops-
field Quallified as the Law Directs for Voting are hereby Notified
and Warned to Conveen and Meet together at the Meeting
House in S^d Town on Tuseday the Seventeenth Day of this In-
stant May at three of y^e Clock in y^e after noon

1 To Choose one Person to Serve at the great and general
Court the year Ensuing

2 To Choose a Committe to Supply the Town with a School
y^e year Ensuing

3 To see if the Town will Choose a Committe to Repair y^e
Meeting house

4 To See if the Town will Choose a Committe to proportion
the Parsonage fence which is not allready made into wall; So
that Every Man May know, and Do, his Proportionable part of
Said fence or pay his Money agreed on by Said Committe as his
proportion : att a time prefixed by the Town

5 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield May 13th 1743.

Tobijah Perkins	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Commings	
Matthew Peabody	
Israel Clark	
Thomas Baker	

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield May y^e 17th 1743.

1 Jacob Peabody is Chosen to Serve the Town at y^e General
Court y^e year Ensuing Voted

2 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen Moderator to order y^e other
affairs of this Meeting Voted

3 Mr Thomas Howlet, M^r Simon Bradstreet & mr Solomon
Gould are Chosen a Committe to provide a Schoolmaster for
y^e Town for this year Voted

4 Voted the Selectmen Shall take Care to git the Meeting
house glass Mended this year all that shall be needfull

5 The Town Allowed to Mr Nath^l Capen one pound thirteen
shillings To be paid out of the Town Treasury it being an abat-
ment of John Prichetts Rates for y^e year Seventeen hundred &
forty. Voted

The free holders and other Inhabitants of y^e Town Topsfield Quallified for Voting as Law Directs, are warned to Convene at the Meeting house in Said Town on Monday the Eleventh Day of July next at three of the Clock after noon

To See if the Town will agree to Make up the Reverend Mr John Emerson his Sallary as to the Deficiency of the old paper Currancy, and make it good according to the first agreement the time past. And also to see if the Town will Choose a Committe to agree with y^e Reverend mr Emerson and Settle his Sallary and Say what it shall be in y^e Last Emission of Money

Dat^d Topsfield June y^e 27th A: D: 1743

Joseph Peabody	Tobijah Perkins	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable of Topsfield	Israel Clark	
	Thomas Baker	

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield July y^e 11th 1743

1 Lieut^t Benjamin Towne is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting
Voted

2 After Some Debate on y^e Subject Matter of y^e present Meeting the Town agreed and Voted that this Meeting Should be adjourned to the third Tueday of September next at two of the Clock afternoon and then y^e S^d Moderator Adjourned the Meeting accordingly

September y^e 20th 1743 The Town being met agreeable to the above Mentioned Adjournment and the Question was put whether the Town will make any further allowance to the Reverend Mr John Emerson on the account of the Deficiency of y^e old paper Currency for the time past, and it passed in y^e Negative

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified for Voting as by Law Required are hereby warned to Convene at the Meeting house in Topsfield afore s^d on Tuseday the Twentieth Day of September Instant at Three of y^e Clock in the afternoon: first To Chuse two good and Lawfull men to Serve on the Petit Jury at Newbury Court

2 To See what Money the Town will Raise to Defray the Town Charges this present year

3 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield September y^e Sixteenth Day Anno Domini 1743

Joseph Peabody	Tobijah Perkins	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable	David Commings	
	Matthew Peabody	
	Tho ^s Baker	
	Israel Clarke	

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield September y^e 20th 1743

1 Cap^t Ivory Hovey is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting

Voted

2 Mr Jeremiah Towne & mr Jacob Robinson are appointed to Serve on the Jury of Tryals at the next inferiour Court to be holden at Newbury

3 The Town agreed that the Selectmen Shall Levy a Tax of one hundred and Eighty pounds old Tenor (besides Mr Emersons hundred pou[n]d Sallary) to Defray the Charges of the Town this present year

Voted

4 The Town allowed to the School Committe Viz. mr Thomas Howlett and mr Solomon Gould fifteen pound five Shillings old Tenor to pay the School master for two Months Service in keeping School

voted 15—05—0

5 The Town Allowed to Mr Luke Averill forty Shillings old Tenor for fencing Stuff and for work in fenceing the parsonage Last Spring

voted 2—0—0

The freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified as in and by the Royal Charter, are hereby Notified & warned to assemble together at the Meeting house in Topsfield on Munday the fourteenth Day of November Instant at two of y^e Clock in y^e afternoon. to Choose two good and Lawfull men Quallified as y^e Law Directs to Serve as Juriours at his Majesties Superiour Court of Judicature Now holden at Salem for the County of Essex

Dat^d Topsfield November y^e 12th 1743

George Bixby Constable for Topsfield

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield November y^e 14th 1743 Mr Daniel Gould and Mr Benjamin Towne are Chosen to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at the Superiour Court now Sitting at Salem

Boston June 15: 1781

Rec^d of Mr Luke Averill Constable of Topsfield fourty-five pounds two Shillings in full for Mr Treasurer Allen

P Eben^r Swan.

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of y^e Town of Topsfield Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby notified to Conveen at y^e Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday the Sixth Day of March Next At Eight of the Clock in the forenoon

1 To Choose a Town Clerk, Constables, Selectmen and other Town Officers as the Law Directs for the year Ensuing

2 To See What the Town will allow the Reverend mr John Emerson More than his yearly Salary besides What hath been all ready allowed for the year past

3 To See what y^e Town will allow the Reverend mr John Emerson More than his yearly Salary for the year Ensuing

4 To See if the Town will Choose one or more persons to See that the Passage ways for fish where they are obstructed be Cleared

5 To Receive the Names of persons brought for Juriors and Select them as the Law Directs

6 To See if the Town will agree to mend & maintain y^e high ways by a Rate

7 To See if the Town will accept the return of a high way Laid out for Michael Dwinel Jun^r on the South Side of y^e River

8 To Receive the Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer

9 To allow bills of Charge

George Bixby
Constable

Tobijah Perkins
David Commings
Matthew Peabody
Israel Clark
Tho^s Baker

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield March y^e 6th 1743/4

1 Lieu^t Benjamin Towne is Chosen Moderator for this meet-
ing voted

2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y^e year Ensuing.
Voted

3 Mr Robert Perkins and mr Nathaniel Porter Jun^r are Chosen
Constables for y^e year Ensuing voted

4 Mr Thomas Baker mr Matthew Peabody mr Benj^a Towne
mr Israel Clarke and Mr David Commings are Chosen Selectmen
for y^e year Ensuing Voted

5 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Treasurer for y^e year En-
suing Voted

6 Mr Thomas Gould Jun^r & Mr Nathan Hood are Chosen
Tythingmen for y^e year Ensuing voted

7 Mr Joseph Edwards is Chosen Sealer of Leather for y^e year
Ensuing Voted

8 Mr Nathaniel Hood mr John Towne mr William Perkins
and mr John Gould are Chosen Surveyers of highways for y^e year
Ensuing Voted

9 Mr Dan Clark mr Jacob Robinson & mr Jacob Dorman are
Chosen fence Viewers for y^e year Ensuing Voted

10 Cap^t Joseph Gould & mr Nathaniel Bordman are Chosen to Prosecute the breakers of the Late Act Concerning Deer

voted

11 Mr Phillip Towne & mr Jeremiah Towne are Chosen Hog-reaves for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

12 mr Luke Averil & mr Thomas Baker are Chosen to Clear the Passage ways for fish where they are obstructed

Voted

13 The Town Allowed fifty pound old Tenor to the Reverend Mr John Emerson More than his Settled Salary for half a year past viz from y^e Second Day of September Last to y^e Second Day of this March

voted

14 The Town accepted of the Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer

voted

15 The Town accepted of the Return of a way y^t is Laid out for Michael Dwinel Jun^r

voted

16 The Town allowed to the School Committe viz mr Solomon Gould & Mr Thomas Howlet fifteen pounds fifteen Shillings old Tenor to pay the Schoolmasters for two Months Service

Voted 15—15—0

17 The Town allowed Twenty Shillings to the S^d Committe to pay for house room for y^e Scholars

Voted 1—0—0

18 The Town allowed two Shillings and Six pence to David Commings for Timber to Mend the Highways in y^e year past

Voted 0—2—6

18 The Town Allowed to Benjamin Towne two Shillings and Six pence for Timber to Mend y^e Highways in y^e year past

Voted 0—2—6

19 The Town allowed two pound four Shillings to John Batchelder for Timber to Mend the Highways in the year past

Voted 2—4—0

20 The Town Allowed Seven pound & Eleven pence to the Selectmen to pay for repairing the Meeting house the year past

Voted 7—0—11

21 The Town Allowed to Dan Clarke two pound Ten Shillings old Tenor for Sweeping the meeting house y^e Last year

Voted 2—10—0

22 The Town Allowed one pound fourteen Shillings to Samuel Towne it being an abatement of Rates for his Sons head

Voted 1—14—0

23 The Town allowed one pound to Jacob Peabody for a Book of Records of births & Deaths &c

Voted 1—0—0

The Several officers Chosen at the afore Said Meeting which y^e Law Requires to be Sworn, all took the oath belonging to their Respective offices on y^e afore S^d Sixth and on the Ninth

Days of S^d March. Except Robert Perkins one of Constables
And Jacob Peabody y^e Town Treasurer

At the Request of Michael Dwinel Jun^r We the Subscribers
have Laid out a Way (for y^e Said Michael to Come to Meeting :)
in the following manner : Begining at the East End of the Said
Michaels house and running one rod and a half Easterly on
Cap^t Thomas Tarbox Line then Runing Northerly one Rod & a
half on S^d Tarbox Land Then Runing Westerly one Rod & a
half from Capt Thomas Tarboxes Line in Wedth till it Comes
to a Turn in the way by Doc^t Dwinels field then turning
Northerly by S^d Docter Dwinels field and Continuing one rod
and a half in Wedth from S^d Tarbox Line till it comes to a pair
of bars that Leads into Docter Michael Dwinels Land

Tobijah Perkins	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Commings	
Matthew Peabody	
Israel Clarke	

This is a True Copy of the return of Laying out Said Way.
Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Tops-
field Quallified for Voteing as the Law Directs; are hereby
Notified to Convene at the meeting house in Topsfield on
Thursday the fifteenth Day of March Instant at two of the
Clock in afternoon

- 1 To Choose Jury men for Ipswich Court
- 2 To Choose a School Committee.
- 3 To See what the Town will do Concirning the Parsonage
fence for the time to come
- 4 To See if the Town will Choose a person to prefer a
Petition unto his Majesties Justices of y^e General Sessions of the
Peace the County Road May be Laid out from Ipswich Line to
Salem through Topsfield
- 5 To See if the Town will allow Swine to go at Large the
year Ensuing.
- 6 To See if Town accept of Joseph Peabody to Serve them as
Constable In the room of Robert Perkins for y^e year Ensuing :
or any other person
- 7 To Recive the Jury men and Select them as the Law Directs
- 8 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dated at Topsfield this tenth Day of March A : D: 1743/4

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfied March y^e 15th 1743/4

1 Mr Benj^a Towne is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting.
Voted

- 2 Thomas Baker is Chosen Clerk for this Meeting Voted
- 3 Mr Jacob Dorman is Chosen to Serve on y^e gra[n]d jury
for y^e year Ensuing Voted
- 4 Mr Thomas Gould & mr Simon Bradstreet were Drawn out
of y^e box to Serve on y^e Jury of Tryals at the next Inferiour
Court to be holden at Ipswich. Voted
- 5 Mr Samuel Bradstreet & mr Simon Gould & Mr Samuel
Smith Jun^r are Chosen to provide a Schoolmaster for the Town
voted
- 6 Mr Israel Clarke Cap^t John Wildes and mr Solomon Gould
are Chosen a Committe to take Care of the Parsonage fence
Voted
- 7 Cap^t John Wilds is Chosen to Prefer a Petition to his Ma-
jesties Justices At y^e General Sessions of y^e Peace to have the
County Road Lay^d out from Ipswich Line to Salem through
Topsfield Voted
- 8 The Town agreed that Swine May go at Large this year
according As the Law Gives Liberty Voted
- 9 Mr Joseph Peabody is Chosen Constable in y^e room or
stead of Robert Perkins Voted
- 10 The Town allowed To Thomas Gould Constable So much
as Samuel Mastis was Rated in S^d Gould Lists Voted
- 11 The Town allowed to Amos Dorman a for Constable So
much as Samuel Masties was Rated in Dormans Lists
- 12 Town Allowed to Mr George Bixby Constable one pound
it being an abatment of Mr William Townses head Money
Voted
- 13 The Town Allowed to Thomas Gould Constable So much
as John Spalden was Rated in S^d Goulds Lists Voted
- 13 The Town Allowed to y^e Last year School Committee
0—15—0
- 14 To Mr Thomas Howlett. Eight shilling
- 15 To John Lefaver two shilling 4 Six pence Thomas Baker
Clerk for S^d meeting

Benjamin Towne Moderator

Boston 20 March 1743 Rec^d of mr Thomas Gould Constable
of Topsfield fifteen pounds Last Emission in part

W^m Foye Treasurer

Topsfield March y^e 26: 1744 then Rec^d of Mr Jacob Peabody
Town Treasurer the Sum of Seven pounds Ten Shillings Bills of
y^e old Tenor in full for my wages for keeping School in S^d Tops-
field P me Nath^l Rogers

the two Receipts above written are True Copies

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified as the Law Directs for Voting are hereby Notified to Convene att the Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday the fifteenth Day of May Instant at three of the Clock in y^e afternoon, then and there to Elect and Depute one person to Serve for and Represent the Town at y^e Great & General Court the year Ensuing. Dated at Topsfield this Eighth Day of May A: D: 1744

Nathaniel Porter Jun^r
Constable of Topsfield

Benj ^a Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Commings	
Matthew Peabody	
Thomas Baker	
Israel Clarke	

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield July y^e 30th 1744

The Votes were brought in and Sealed up for a County Register

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of y^e Town of Topsfield Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs, are hereby notified to Convene at the Meeting house in Topsfield afore Said: on Tuseday the Eighteenth Day September Instant at two of y^e Clock in y^e after noon

1 To Choose Jurymen to Serve at Newbury Court

2 To See what money y^e Town will raise to Defray Town Charges y^e year Ensuing

3 To allow bills of Charge

Dat^d at Topsfield this Sixth Day of Sept^r Anno Domini 1744

Nath^l Porter
Constable of Topsfield

Benj ^a Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Commings	
Israel Clark	
Thomas Baker	

At a Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield Sept^r y^e 18; 1744

1 Mr George Bixby is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting

Voted

2 Mr David Commings & mr Phillip Towne are Drawn out of y^e box to Serve on y^e Jury of Tryals at Newbury Court

3 The Town agreed that the Selectmen Shall Raise a Tax of one hundred and Thirty pounds old Tenor to Defray the Town Charges besides Mr Emersons hundred pound Salary Voted

4 The Town Allowed to y^e School Committe, Namely to Si-

mon Gould, and Samuel Smith: Sixteen pound old Tenor for two Months Schooling Voted

5 The Town Allowed to Thomas Gould Constable for y^e year 1742 one pound Nine Shillings and Eight pence it being an abatement of Nicholas Crees Rates in 1742. Voted 1—9—8

6 The Town Allowed to Deacon Hovey three Shillings and Six pence it being an abatement of Said Hoveys Rates:

0—3—6 Voted

7 The Town Allowed to Thomas Gould Constable for y^e year 1742 five Shillings & one peney on John Casees account and three Shillings and Six pence on Benjamin Batchelder account they being Rated for meadow they had not.

Mr Jacob Peabody Town Treasurer Si^r you are hereby ordered to pay in unto y^e Reverend mr John Emerson the Sum of fifty pounds old Tenor it being the remains of his Sallary for y^e year past
Topsfield August the 31st 1744

Benjamin Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Commings	
Israel Clarke	
Thomas Baker	

Topsfield October 8th 1744.

Received of Mr Jacob Peabody Town Treasurer y^e Sum of Nineteen pounds old Tenor; in full of y^e within written order, and in part of my Salary for y^e year past by me John Emerson Clerk

This is a True Copy attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Boston 6 ffeb 1744 Rec^d of Mr George Bixby Constable of Topsfield Eleven pound Seventeen Shillings five pence 1-4 in full

W^m Foye Treasurer

A True Copy Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The ffreeholders & other inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified as the Law Directs for Voting; are hereby Notified to Convene at the Meeting house in S^d Town: on Tuseday the thirteenth Day of November instant at two of the Clock in the after noon

1 To See what the Town will allow the Reverend mr Emerson More than his yearly Sallary from March A: D: 1743/4 To March A: D: 1744 or for any part of Said time

2 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield November 7th 1744

Nathaniel Porter Jun ^r	Benj ^a Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable of Topsfield	David Commings	
	Matthew Peabody	
	Thomas Baker	

At A Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield November 13th 1744

1 Cap^t Joseph Gould is Chosen Moderator for this meeting

Voted

2 The Town agreed to give to the Reverend mr John Emerson fifty pounds old Tenor besides his Settled Sallary for this year viz from the 2nd Day of March Last to the Second Day of March Next

Voted

3 The Town allowed to Thomas Dwinel fourteen Shillings it being an abatement of his Son Jacob Dwinels Town Rate for y^e year 1743

Voted

4 The Town Allowed to the School Committee viz to Simon Gould And Samuel Smith Jun^r Seven pound old Tenor to pay the School-Master for one Months Service in keeping School

Voted 7—0—0

Mr Daniel Redington is Chosen to Serve on the Grand Jury at the Next Superiour Court to be holden at Salem Mr David Balch is Drawn out of box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at y^e Next Superiour Court to be holden at Salem

November 1744.

Received of Jacob Peabody Town Treasurer the Sum of Six pounds old Tenor in full for my Service as School-Master in Topsfield.

Jacob Peabody Jun^r

The freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified as the Law Directs for Voting: are hereby Notified and Warned to Meet together, at y^e Meeting house in Said Town on Tuseday the Twelveth Day of this instant March at three a Clock in the afternoon, then and there to Choose Jury Men according to warrant:

Datted Topsfield March 6th 1744.

Nathath Porter Jun ^r	} Constables of Topsfield
Joseph Peabody	

At a Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield March y^e 12th 1744/5

1 Deacon Ivory Hovey is Chosen to Serve on the Grand Jury for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

2 Mr John Towne and mr Jonathan Perkins are Chosen by Drawing their Names out of the box: to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at the next Inferiour Court of Common Please to be holden at Ipswich

The Freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby Notified to Conveen together at the Meeting house Topsfield afore S^d Munday the Twenty fifth Day of March Instant at Eight of the Clock in the Morning: firstly to Choose a Town Clerk, Constables Selectmen and other Town Officers annually to be Chosen.

Secondly that whereas y^e Town has allowed after the Rate of one hundred pounds old Tenor to mr Emerson besides his stated Salary and yet but fifty pounds old Tenor was allowed the Last fall: To See whether the Town will now allow y^e other fifty pounds old Tenor for y^e year 1744 that is from March 2^d 1743/4 To March 2nd 1744/5

thirdly To Choose a Committe to Supply the Town with a School

4ly To See if the Swine Shall go at Large y^e year Ensuing

5ly To See if the Town will Do any thing to prevent Sheeps going in the Training field without a Shepherd

6ly To Accept the Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer

7ly To Allow bills of Charge.

Dat^d Topsfield March y^e 13th A: D: 1744/5

Joseph Peabody	Benj ^a Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable of Topsfield.	David Commings	
	Matthew Peabody	
	Israel Clarke	
	Tho ^s Baker	

This is A True Copy of y^e Notification

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Cler

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield March y^e 25th 1745

1 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this meeting

Voted

2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

3 Jacob Perkins and Michael Dwinell Jun^r are Chosen Constables for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

4 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Treasurer for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

5 Mr Solomon Gould, Cap^t Tobijah Perkins, Richard Towne, Daniel Redington & Cap^t John Wildes are Chosen Selectmen for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

6 Mr John Batchelder, Robert Perkins & Matthew Peabody are Chosen Tythingmen for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

7 Mr Stephen Towne, Ephraim Wildes & Thomas Gould Jun^r

- are Chosen Surveyers of highways for y^e year Ensuing Voted
- 8 Mr David Balch and Joshua Towne are Chosen fence view-
ers for y^e year Ensuing voted
- 9 Mr Nathaniel Averill & John Hovey are Chosen to prosecute
the breakers of the Law Concerning Deer Voted
- 10 Mr Luke Averill & Samuel Towne are Chosen Hogreaves
for y^e year Ensuing Voted
- 11 Voted that Mr Elijah Porter mr Joseph Peabody & mr
John Gould be a Committe to provide a Schoolmaster for y^e Town
y^e year Ensuing
- 12 The Town agreed that Swine May go at Large this year
according as the Law gives Liberty Voted
- 13 The Town allowed off and accepted of the Selectmens
Reckoning with y^e Town Treasurer Voted
- 14 The Town Allowed to Cap^t Joseph Gould, Six Shillings
old Tenor for Timber to mend the highway in the year 1744
Voted 0—6—0
- 15 Town allowed to Cornelius Balch three Shilling for Timber
Voted 0—3—0
- 16 The Town Allowed to Nathaniel Hood five pound old Tenor
for part of the Timber & plank that was used at the bridge
near to Mr Jacob Dormans in y^e year 1744 Voted 5—0—0
- 17 the Town allowed to Joseph Hovey one pound fourteen
Shillings it being an abatement of Richard Crees Rates for 1744
Voted 1—14—0
- 18 The Town Allowed to George Bixby three pound Eight
Shillings old Tenor it being an abatment of John Spaldens &
Samuel Masties Rates as they were Rated in S^d Bixbys List
Voted. 3—8—0
- 19 The Town Allowed to Solomon Gould a former Constable
one pound thirteen Shillings old Tenor for an abatment of Nicho-
las Crees Rates for y^e year 1740 Voted 1—13—0
- 20 The Town Allowed to Dan Clarke two pound ten Shillings
old Tenor for Sweeping the Meeting House y^e year past
Voted 2—10—0
- 21 The Town Allowed to the School Committe viz to Simon
Gould and Samuel Smith Jun^r fifteen pound three Shillings &
nine pence old Tenor to pay for keeping School Six weeks four
Day and a half Voted 15—3—9
- 22 The Town Allowed to Daniel Redington two pound twelve
Shillings and Six pence old Tenor for Plank for bridges 1744.
Voted 2—12—6
- 23 The Town Allowed to Solomon Gould & Israel Clark four-
teen Shillings old Tenor for Mending the parsonage fence in
1744 Voted 0—14—0

24 Mr Joseph Edward is Chosen Sealer of Leather for y^e year
Ensuing Voted

The Several Persons Chosen at the above Said Meeting of
Whom an oath is required all took the oath belonging to their
Respective Offices immediately after the S^d Meeting was over
Except Joseph Edwards, Luke Averill & Stephen Towne

And the[y] were Sworn on y^e 28th Day of y^e Same Month

April y^e 23: 174[5] We the Subscribers being appointed to
renew the Bounds between Topsfield & Middleton firstly we be-
gan at Nickollses Brook where Salem and Topsfield Line Use to
Croise Said Brook, and then as S^d Brook Runs to the Northerly
Branch of it: then as Said Branch Runs till it Comes into the
River Called Ipswich River


Daniel Redington	} for Topsfield	Joseph Knight	} for Middleton
Tobijah Perkins		Nathaniel Peabody	
George Bixby		Francis Peabody Jun	

This is A True Copy of the return of Perambulation with
Middleton Attest Jacob Peabody Town Cler

Topsfield Aprill 16th Received of Mr Simon Gould & Mr Sam-
uel Smith Jun^r fifteen pounds three Shillings & Nine pence old
Tenor in full for my Service as School Master in Topsfield
by me Jacob Peabody Jun^r

A True Copy Examined P Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

We the Subscribers being appointed to Perambulate & renew
the bounds between Salem and Topsfield: accordingly Mett on
y^e 23rd of Aprill 1745 and Renewed the bounds: Begining at a
Stump a heap of Stones round it Near Wenham Causway and
from thence to a Black or Red oak Stump: with a heap of
Stones round it Standing in Samuel Gotts orchard: and from
thence to a heap of Stones near to y^e Corner of Thomas Dwinels
pasture and from thence to a heap of Stones near to Nickollses
Brook, & So on y^e Same Corse till you Come to the Brook

his	Israel Andrews
Thomas  Dwinel	Caleb Putnam
mark	Eliezer Porter
Aaron Eastey	Stephen Putnam
Matthew Peabody	Jethro Putnam
	Jon ^a Putnam

We the Subscribers being appointed and Impoured by the
Selectmen of Topsfield & Wenham: to Perambulate & renew
the Bounds between our Said Towns have Mett on the Twenty

third Day of april 1745 And have Mutually agreed: and have Renewed the boundaries between our Said Towns—as followeth. Begining at the White oak Stump of a Tree Lately fell which was Salems Northerly Corner bounds, thence twelve poles Easterly to a Stake and heap of Stones by the highway Leading from Wenham Causway to Bunkers Meadow: on y^e West Side of S^d way from thence to the Plump of Maples So Called but now a Stump and thence as the Brook Runs to a Stake and heap of Stones at y^e going over the Brook from thence to the South Easterly Corner of Pigdens Meadow (So Called) and So to the River all which is According to the Settlement in the year 1740 which Settlement Shall not Effect any mans property—and in Confirmation of all Above Written we have here to Set our hands.

Dated Aprill: 23 Anno: Dom: 1745

Michael Dwinel }
Jeremiah Towne }
Richard Towne }

Ebenezer Fisk }
David Batchelder }
John Moulton Jun^r }
Samuel Porter Jun^r }

This is a True Copy of perambulation with Wenham

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Cle

We Whose Names are under written being appointed by y^e Towns of Topsfield and Boxford, to Renew Bounds between S^d Towns. Persueant to our Instructions we have Perambulated and Renewed bounds. According to y^e Resolve of y^e General Court: Passed Anno: Domini 1707

Dat^d Topsfield Aprill 23: 1745.

Nath^l Perkins,
Nathan Hood,
Joshua Andrew,
William Redington.

This is a True Copy of Perambulation With Boxford,

Attest Jacob Peabody, Town Clerk.

The freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified for Voting as Law Directs in the Choice of a Representative are hereby Notified and Warned to Assemble together at the Meeting House in Topsfield on fryday the Seventeenth Day of May Instant at two of the Clock in y^e afternoon

1 To Chuse a Representative according to Precept:

2 To See what the Town Will allow the Reverend Mr John Emerson More than his Stated Salary, besides the fifty pounds: the Town allowed In y^e year Anno Domini 1744, or if the Town

see Cause to Come unto Some other Method for the Support of the Reverend mr Emerson for the future

3 To See if the Town Will Chuse a Committe to take Care of the Parsonage fence and Repair it

4 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield May y^e 18th 1745

Michael Dwinel Jun ^r	Daniel Redington	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable of Topsfield	John Wildes	
	Tobijah Perkins	
	Solomon Gould	
	Richard Towne	

A True Copy of the Notification

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At A Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield May y^e 17th 1745.

Jacob Peabody is Chosen Representative to Serve at y^e General Court and No other business Done at Said meeting. voted

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby Notified And Warned to Assemble and Conven together at the Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday the Twenty first Day of May Instant at three of y^e Clock in y^e After Noon

1 To See What y^e Town will allow the Reverend mr John Emerson More then his Statted Salary for y^e year Anno: Domini 1744.

2 To See if the Town will Leave the Affair Concerning the Revererend Mr John Emersons Salary to Indiffrant Men for the future: Chosen by himself and the Town

3 To See if the Town will Chuse a Committe to take Care of parsonage fence And Make Stone Wall about Said Parsonage

4 To allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield May y^e 18th 1745.

Jacob Perkins	Daniel Redington	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable of Topsfield	John Wildes	
	Richard Towne	

This is A True Copy of y^e Notification:

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Cler

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield May y^e 24th 1745.

1 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting

Voted

2 The Town allowed to William Perkins three pounds old Tenor 3—0—0 for 170 feet of Plank to Cover Mile Brook bridge in y^e year 1744

Voted

3 the Town allowed to Daniel Redington one pound Nine Shillings and 1—9—8 Eight pence old Tenor it being what Nath^l Capen was Rated for his head in Sd Redingtons List. Said Capen having paid at Boxford y^e Same year voted

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs, are hereby Notified and Warned to Assemble and Convene together at the Meeting house in Topsfield on Wednesday the Eighteenth Day of September Currant at two of the Clock in y^e Afternoon

1 To Choose Jurymen for Newbury Court as the Law Directs

2 To See how much Money the Town will raise to Defray the Charges in Said Town for the year Ensuing

3 To See if the Town will Choose a Committe to open y^e highway from Thomas Robinsons Bridge So Called, to y^e River Bridge in Topsfield.

4 To See how Much the Town will give the Reverend mr John Emerson, More than his Settled Salary for this present year.

5 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield September y^e 11th 1745

Jacob Perkins
Constable of Topsfield

Daniel Redington
John Wildes
Tobijah Perkins
Solomon Gould
Richard Towne

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

At A Legal Town meeting in Topsfield Sep^t 18th 1745

1 Cap^t Joseph Gould is Chosen Moderator for this meeting

Voted

2 Nathan Hood & Thomas Perkins as Drawn out of the Box to Serve on y^e Petit Jury at y^e next Inferiour Court to be holden at Newbury

3 The Town agreed that y^e Selectmen Shall raise a Tax of one hundred & Thirty pound old Tenor to Defray the Town Charges the year Ensuing, (besides Mr Emersons hundred pound Salary :) Excluding that Sum which y^e Court have Sent for to Defray y^e Charge of y^e fish Course Voted

To Mr Jacob Peabody Treasurer for y^e Town of Topsfield—Sir you are hereby Ordered to pay to the Reverend Mr John Emerson fifty pounds Salary in y^e old Tenor by y^e Second of September next Ensuing y^e Date Dated Topsfield August y^e 31 Anno Domini 1745

A True Copy of the Order

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Topsfield October 18th 1745 Received fifty pounds old Tenor the full of the within written order, and in part of My half years Salary from March 2: 1744/5 to September y^e 2: 1745

This is a True Copy of y^e Receipt John Emerson
Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield, Such as are Qualified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby Notified and warn^d to Assemble and Convene together at the Meeting house in Topsfield on Wednesday y^e Sixth Day of Novemb^r Next Ensuing the Date hereof at one of the Clock after noon.

1 To Choose two good and Lawfull Men to Serve at Salem Court: one Where of to Serve on y^e Grand Jury, and the other on the jury of Tryals

2 To See how much Money the Town will give the Reverend mr John Emerson more than his Settled Salary for this present year

3 To See if y^e Town will raise Money to Supply the Town with a Sufficient Stock of Powder, and Bullets, and flints as the Law Directs

4 To Allow Bills of Charge.

Dated October y^e 19th 1745.

Michael Dwinel Jun^r
Constable

Daniel Redington	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Tobijah Perkins	
Solomon Gould	
Richard Towne	

A True Copy of y^e Notification

Attest. Jacob Peabody Town Cle:

At A Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield November y^e 6th 1745

1 Lieu^t Benjamin Towne is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting Voted

2 Mr George Bixby is Chosen to Serve on y^e Grand Jury at the Next Superiour Court to be holden at Salem Voted

3 Mr Thomas Baker was Drawn out of y^e Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at y^e next Superiour Court to be holden at Salem and no More business Done at Said meeting

November y^e 9th 1745 There is taken up by Simon Gould of Topsfield a Stray horse of a Dark Sorrill Colour, with a very Light Coloured Main and Tail, and a Strip of White in his face Down to his Nose: but has Neither brand nor Ear Mark.

Att a Meeting of the Selectmen of the Town of Topsfield

and Ipswich and have Renewed & Confirmed all the former Bounds Between the Said two Towns as Witness our hands this 23rd Day of December: Anno Domini 1745

Aaron Potter
Mark Haskell
John Kimball
John Wildes
Tobijah Perkins

This is a True Copy Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Boston 27: Dec^r 1745 Recd of m^r Nath^l Porter Constable of
Topsfield Twenty four pounds Eighteen Shillings ten pence Last
Emission in full W: Foye Treasurer

This is a True Copy Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of y^e Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified as the Law Directs for voting, are hereby Notified and Warn^d to Assemble and Convene together att the Meeting House in Topsfield on Tuseday y^e fourth Day of March Next Ensuing the Date here of at Nine of the Clock in y^e forenoon

1 To Choose a Town Clerk, Constables, Selectmen Town Treasurer and other Town Officers as the Law Directs.

2 To See if the Town will Receive the Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer

3 To See What the Town will Allow the Reverend mr John Emerson, More than what he has already had for y^e year A: D: 1744

4 To See if the Town will give the Reverend Mr John Emerson one hundred pounds old Tenor for the year past viz from the 2nd of March 1744/5 to March y^e 2nd: 1745/6 Provided that the Rev^d Mr John Emerson will give a full Discharge to this time for the time past

5 To See What Method the Town will Come into for the Support of the Reverend mr John Emerson for the future

6 To See if y^e Town will abate Nicholas Crees & Samuel Masties Rates for the year 1744 in mr Nathaniel Porters Rates

7 To Allow Bills of Charge.

Dat^d Topsfield Feb^{ry} 21st 1745/6

Jacob Perkins
Constable of Topsfield

Daniel Redington	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Wildes	
Tobijah Perkins	
Solomon Gould	
Richard Towne	

This is A True Copy of y^e notification

attest Jacob Peabody T: Cler

At A Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March y^e 4th 1745/6

1 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this meeting

Voted

2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

3 Jacob Averill & John Towne are Chosen Constables for y^e year Ensuing

voted

4 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Treasurer for y^e year Ensuing

voted

5 Cap^t John Wildes, Cap^t Tobijah Perkins Richard Towne Solomon Gould & Daniel Redington are Chosen Selectmen for the year Ensuing

Voted

6 Epraim Wildes Luke Averill & Israel Clarke are Chosen Tythingmen for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

7 Joseph Edwards is Chosen Sealer of Leather for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

8 Jacob Robinson, Samuel Bradstreet & Aaron Estey are Chosen Surveyers of highways for the year Ensuing

Voted

9 Cornelious Balch Cap^t Joseph Gould & Jonathan Perkins are Chosen fence viewers for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

10 Joshua Towne & Phillip Towne are Chosen to Prosecute the breakers of the Late Law Concerning Deer, for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

11 Matthew Peabody & William Rogers are Chosen Hogreaves for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

12 The Town Accepted of the Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer, and now remains in S^d Treasurers hands Not Ordred out three hundred and Twelve pounds Sixteen Shillings

13 The Town agreed to Give to the Reverend Mr John Emerson fifty pounds old Tenor for y^e year 1744.

Voted

14 The Town agreed to Give to the Reverend mr John Emerson one hundred pounds old Tenor for y^e year 1745 viz from y^e 2nd Day of March 1744/5 to the 2nd Day of March 1745/6 Provided the S^d Mr Emerson will give the Town a Discharge in full for his Salary to the 2nd Day of this Instant March

Voted

15 The Town agreed to give to the Reverend mr John Emerson one hundred pound: old Tenor for the year Ensuing: from the Second Day of this Instant March to the 2nd Day of March 1746/7

16 The Town agreed to abate Samuel Masties & Nicholas Crees Rates as they were Rated in mr Nathaniel Porters List in y^e year 1744

Voted

17 The Town allowed three pounds Eight Shillings old Tenor to Nathaniel Hood for Timber & Plank to mend the Bridge by Jacob Dormans in the year 1744 3—8—0 Voted

18 The Town Allowed to Thomas Gould five pounds four Shillings and Seven Pence old Tenor for Timber & Plank to Mend the River Bridge Last September Voted 5—4—7

19 The Town allowed to Cap^t John Wildes fourteen Shillings old tenor for two Casks to put the Towns bullets in, and one pound Ten shillings for his attendance at Court about the fish Corses Voted 2—4—0

20 The Town allowed to Ephraim Wildes fifteen Shillings & Ten pence old Tenor for plank & Timber to Mend 4 bridges in 1745 Voted 0—15—10

21 The Town allowed To Israel Clarke and Dan Clarke fifteen pounds old Tenor for Making Twenty Rods of stone wall about the parsonage voted 15—0—0

22 The Town allowed to Samuel Howlet Jun^r three shillings old Tenor for Mending the pound Voted 0—3—0

23 The Town allowed to Daniel Redington three pounds old Tenor for one hundred & ahalf of White oak Plank for Bridges Voted 3—0—0

24 The Town allowed to Jonathan Standly two pounds Ten shilling old Tenor for Sweeping the Meeting house the year past Voted 2—10—0

25 The Town Allowed to Stephen Town four Shillings old Tenor for Timber to mend Wheel brook Bridge Voted 0—4—0

26 The Town agreed to Abate the Rates of Nathaniel Towne Jun^r for y^e year 1744, he haveing Lost his Life at Cape briton Voted & is 1—14—0

27 The Town Allowed to Jabob Peabody two pounds old Tenor for Serving Town Treasurer for three year past

Voted 2—0—0

The Several officers y^t were Chosen at y^e above S^d meeting of whom an oath is Required were all Sworn to the faithful Discharge of their Several offices on y^e 4th and 7th Days of March 1745/6

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby Notified and Warned to Assemble together at the meeting house in Topsfield on Munday the Seventeenth Day of March Currant at two Of Clock in the after noon

1 To Chuse Jury men to Serve at Ipswich Court according to Warrant

2 To See if the Town will Choose a Committee to Supply the Town with a School for the year Ensuing and Give y^e S^d Committee Instructions:

3 To See if the Town will Give Liberty for Swine to go at Large y^e for year Ensuing

4 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield March y^e 12th A D 1745/6

Jacob Averill

Constable.

Daniel Redington

John Wildes

Tobijah Perkins

Solomon Gould

Richard Towne

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

This is a True Copy of the Notification

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk.

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield March 17th 1745/6

1 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting

Voted

2 Richard Towne is Chosen Clerk for this present meeting & Sworn Ensuing

3 Cap^t Tobijah Perkins is Chosen Grand Jury man for y^e year Ensuing

4 Dan Clark And Simon Gould were Chosen as the Law Directs To Serve on y^e Jury of Tryalls at y^e next Inferiour Court to be holden at Ipswich

5 Nath^l Averill Jun^r John Perkins Jun^r & Thomas Gould Jun^r are Chosen a Committee to Supply the Town with a School for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

6 The Town Voted, that Swine Should go at Large provided they are yoaked and ringed as the Law Directs

7 The Town Allowed To Jacob Perkins Jun^r forty Shillings old Tenor for forty two hose Posts and Carting Eighty five rails and Erecting fifty Lengths: of fence about the Parsonage

voted 2—0—0

8 The Town allowed to Andrew Bradstreet So Much as he was Rated in y^e year 1745

Voted

9 The Town Allowed To John Gould and Elijah Porter School Committee Seventy two pounds old Tenor to pay the School Master for nine Months Service in keeping School

Voted 72—0—0

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby Notified and Warned to Assemble and Conveen together

at the Meeting house in Topsfield on Munday the Nineteenth of May Currant at three of the Clock in the after noon

- 1 To Chuse a Representative according to precept
- 2 To see if the Town will answer the Petition of Lieu^t Benjamin Towne as to set of him and his Estate to Middleton
- 3 To allow Bills of Charege

Dated Topsfield May y^e 8th Anno Domini 1746.

John Towne	Daniel Redington	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Constable of Topsfield	John Wildes	
	Tobijah Perkins	
	Solomon Gould	
	Richard Towne	

A True Copy of Notification

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk.

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield May y^e 19th 1746

- 1 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Representative

S^d Peabody Refuseing to Serve and then the Selectmen put the Question to the Town Whether they would proceed to Choose any other person to Represent them at y^e General Court and it passed in y^e Negative

- 1 And then Cap^t John Wildes was Chosen Moderator for other affairs of this meeting

Voted

- 2 And after Some Debate on y^e Petition that Lieu^t Benjamin Towne Sent to the Selectmen Desireing that he and his Estate might be Set off to Middleton.

The Question was put whether the Town would Sett off S^d Towne with his Estate to belong to Middleton. Voted in y^e Negative

- 3 The Town Allowed to y^e School Committee viz to John Gould & Elijah Porter three pounds old Tenor for house Rent for y^e School four months fifty Shillings thereof for Mr Capens house 3 Months and Ten shillings for Cornelius Balch one Month

Voted 3—0—0

- 4 The Town Allowed fifteen shillings to Cap^t Wildes for two Locks one for y^e pound, and the other for the powder Room

Voted 0: 15: 0

- 5 The Town allowed fourteen Shillings to Jonathan Standly for Mending the parsonage fence Last Aprill

0—14—0

Topsfield Sep^t y^e 16th 1746 Received of Deacon Jacob Peabody Town Treasurer y^e Sum of fifty pounds old Tenor y^e full of y^e within written Order: and also in full for my Salary, for all times past: that is to Say till y^e 2nd of March 1745/6

by me John Emerson Clerk

This is a True Copy of the Receipt

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Qualified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby Notified and Warn^d to Assemble and Convene together at y^e Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday the Sixteenth Day of September Currant at two of the Clock in y^e afternoon

1 To Choose two good and Lawfull Men to Serve on y^e Jury of Tryals at Newbury Court according to Warrant

2 To See how Much Money the Town will Raise to Defray the Charges of the Town for the year Ensuing

3 To See if the Town will give Liberty to the Selectmen to give an order to y^e Town Treasurer to pay the County Tax for this present year

4 To Allow Bills of charge

Dat^d Topsfield Sep^t y^e 1st 1746

Jacob Averill
Constable

Daniel Redington	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Wildes	
Solomon Gould	
Richard Towne	

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield Sep^t y^e 16th 1746

1 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this meeting

Voted

2 John Perkins Jun^r & Elijah Porter are Appointed agreeable to the Law to Serve on y^e Jury of Tryalls at the next Inferiour Court To be holden at Newbury

3 The Town Agreed that the Selectmen shall Levy of a Tax of three hundred and Twenty pounds old Tenor (Excluding mr Emerson Salary) for the Defraying of the Charges of the Town the year Ensuing

Voted

4 The Town allowed to Joseph Peabody one pound Nineteen shilling and Eight pence old Tenor it being an abatement of John Lefavours Rates for y^e year 1744

Voted 1—19—8

5 The Town allowed to the School Committe viz to Nathaniel Averill Jun^r, John Perkins Jun^r & Thomas Gould Jun^r Six pounds and Ten shillings old Tenor to pay y^e School master for one Months Schoolling this year

Voted 6—10—0

Topsfield Sep^t y^e 16th 1746 I the Subscriber then Received of Jacob Peabody the Sum of Six pounds & Ten Shillings old Tenor bills of Credit being Due from y^e Town of Topsfield for one Months Schooling in the present year.

Nathaniel Averill Jun^r

The above receipt is a True Copy

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Topsfield January 17th 1746/7 Rec^d of Deacon Jacob Peabody
Town Treasurer y^e Sum of Sixty two pounds old Tenor in full
of the within written order, and in full for my Salary to Septem-
ber 2nd : 1746 by me John Emerson Clerk.

A True Copy

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Boston January 23: 1746 Received of Mr Joseph Peabody
Constable of Topsfield Sixteen pounds nine Shillings & Seven
pence in full for M^r Treasurer Foye

P Eben^r Swan

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Tops-
field Such as a[re] Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are
hereby Notified and Warned to Assemble and meet together at
the meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday the third day of
February next Ensuing the Date hereof at three of the Clock in
the after noon

To Choose an agent or agents to answer the presentment for
want of a School on the Tenth Day of February next at Salem
upon the Adjournment of the Court

Dated Topsfield January 29th 1746/7

John Towne
Constable of Topsfield

John Wildes	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Solomon Gould	
Richard Towne	

At A Legall Town Meeting Topsfield ffeb: y^e 3rd 1746/7

1 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting

voted

2 Richard Towne is Chosen Clerk for this Meeting Voted

3 The Town Made Choice Cap^t John Wildes, Lieu^t Benjamin
Towne And Mr George Bixby to answer at Salem Court for
want of a School the year past

John Wildes Moderator for Said meeting

Richard Towne Clerk for S^d meeting

Rec^d of Deaⁿ Jacob Peabody five pounds Seventeen Shillings
in full for the Town of Topsfield, proportion as the County Tax,
for the present year. Feb 23rd 1746

Daniel Appleton County Trea^{sr}

A True Copy

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Tops-
field Such as are Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are

hereby Notified & Warned to Assemble and Convene together at the Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuesday the third Day of March next Ensuing the Date hereof at Nine of the Clock in the Morning :

1 To Choose a Town Clerk, Constables Selectmen Town Treasurer And other Town Officers as the Law Directs

2 To See how [much] Money the Town will allow the Reverend Mr John Emerson More than his Stated Salary for the year Ensuing

3 To See if the Town will Accept of the Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer

4 To See if the Town Will Answer the Petition of Mr Samuel Bradstreet. in giving him the Room in the Meeting house where his Pew Stands

5 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield February 23rd 1746/7

John Wilds	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Tobijah Perkins	
Solomon Gould	
Richard Towne	

A True Copy of the Notification

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk.

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield March 3rd 1746/7

1 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting.
Voted

2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y^e year Ensuing.
Voted

3 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Treasurer for y^e year Ensuing.
Voted

4 Samuel Towne & John Gould are Chosen Constables for y^e year Ensuing
Voted

5 Cap^t John Wildes mr Richard Towne mr Thomas Baker Mr Benjamin Towne & mr Nathaniel Averill Jun^r are Chosen Selectmen for y^e year Ensuing
Voted

6 Mr Jacob Robinson, mr Joseph Dorman & Mr Solomon Gould are Chosen Tythingmen for y^e year Ensuing
Voted

7 Mr Joseph Edwards is Chosen Sealler of Leather for y^e year Ensuing
Voted

8 Mr Thomas Symonds, mr Samuel Smith Ju^r and mr Mat-

9 thew Peabody are Chosen Surveyers of highways for y^e year Ensuing
Voted

10 Mr David Commings & mr Samuel Curtis are Chosen to prosecute the breakers of the Late Act Concerning Deer
Voted

11 Mr Elijah Porter, mr Jeremiah Towne, & Mr Luke Averill are Chosen fence viewers for y^e year Ensuing Voted

12 Cap^t Tobijah Perkins & mr Eliezer Gould are Chosen Hog-reeves for the year Ensuing Voted

13 The Town Agreed to give to the Reverend mr John Emerson one hundred pounds old Tenor besides his Stated Salary for the year Ensuing viz from the Second Day of March Currant to the Second Day of March 1747/8 provided Mr Emerson will give a Receipt in full for his Salary at the years End Voted

14 The Town accepted of the Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer & there Remains yet in the S^d Treasurers hands one hundred & Thirty nine pounds & one Shilling old Tenor 131—1—0 Not ordered out Voted

15 The Town Accepted of Mr Israel Clark to Serve as Constable in the room and Stead of Mr Samuel Towne Voted

17 The Town Allowed to m^r Joseph Peabody five Shillings and 0—5—8 Eight Pence it being an Abatement of William Lampsons Rates for the year 1744 Voted

16 The Town Allowed to mr Joseph Peabody two pounds fourteen Shillings old Tenor it being an abatment of John Prichards Rates 2—14—0 for y^e years 1743 & 1744 Voted

18 The Town allowed to Deacon Hovey Ten shilling old Tenor 0—10—0 for Timber to Mend the Bridge by the great pond in 1746 Voted

19 The Town allowed to Michael Dwinel Constable one pound Sixteen Shillings and Six pence it being an abatement of William Mckittrys Rates for y^e year 1745 Voted 1—16—6

20 The Town allowed to Jacob Perkins Constable one pound Sixteen Shillings & Six pence old Tenor it being an abatement of Zacheriah Dwinels Rates for y^e year 1745 voted

21 The Town allowed to the School Committee viz to mr John Perkins Ju^r and mr Nathaniel Averill Ju^r Thirty two pounds old Tenor to pay for four Months Schooling Voted 32—0—0

22 The Town allowed to Jonathan Wildes one pound Sixteen Shillings and Six [pence] it being an abatement for his poll Tax for y^e year 1745 1—16—6 voted

23 The Town allowed to Cap^t Tobijah Perkins one pound two Shillings old Tenor for plank to mend the Bridge by Howletts in 1746 Voted

24 The Town Allowed to Jacob Averill Ten Shillings old Tenor 0—10—0 for a String piece & Eleven feet of plank to mend Mile Brook bridge Voted

25 The Town allowed to John Redington five Shillings old

Tenor 0—5—0 for mending Latch of the Meeting house Door
Voted

26 The Town allowed to Samuel Howlett Jun^r two pounds
Twelve Shillings old Tenor for Sweeping the meeting house the
year past and for mending the Door Voted

The Several Officers Chosen at the above S^d meeting were all
Sworn the faithfull Discharge of their Respective offices before
the Selectmen on the third & on the Twelveth Days of March
1746/7

Except Cap^t Tobijah Perkins Entered by order of y^e Select-
men

The Free holders and other Inhabitants of Topsfield Quallified
for Voting are hereby Notified and warned to Assemble and
meet at the mee[t]ing house in Topsfield on Tuseday the
Twenty fourth Day of March Instant at two of the clock in the
after noon

1 To Chuse Jury men for Ipswich Court according to warrant

2 To Choose a School Committe for y^e year Ensuing

3 To Choose a Committe to take Care of the parsonage fence
for y^e year Ensuing

4 To Choose a Committe to answer a presentment for want
of a School at Ipswich Court next

5 To See if the Town will agree that Swine Shall go at Large
the year Ensuing as the Law Directs

6 To See if the Town will Sell the room in the Meeting
house that is between Cap^t Tobijah Perkins pew & the Pulpit to
Thomas Perkins

7 To allow bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield March 16th 1746

John Wildes

Benj^a Towne

Richard Town

Nath^l Averill Jun^r

Tho^s Baker

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

In obedience to the Law I have Notified the freeholders and
other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield to Meet at time and
place within Mentioned, by putting this Notification as Usual

Per me John Gould Constable of Topsfield

This is a True Copy of the Notification and return thereon

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield March 24 1746/7

1 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting

Voted

2 Cap^t John Wildes is Chosen to Serve on y^e Grand Jury for the year Ensuing Voted

3 Mr Luke Averill & mr William Perkins are Appointed to Serve on y^e Jury of Tryalls at the next Inferiour Court to be holden at Ipswich

4 Mr Solomon Gould & mr Samuel Bradstreet are Chosen to take Care off and repair the parsonage fence for y^e year Ensuing Voted

5 Cap^t John Wildes & mr Benj^a Towne are Chosen agents for the Town to appear at Ipswich Court at the Next General Sessions of the peace they or Either of them, to answer the Towns presentment for want of a School, in y^e year past Voted

6 The Town agreed that Swine shall go at Large this year according as the Law Gives Liberty Voted

7 The Town Allowed two pound & two Shillings 2—2—0 To Ephraim Towne it being an abatement of his Rates for the year 1746 Voted

The Town allowed Ten pounds old Tenor to the School Committee viz Nathaniel Averill Jun^r & John Perkins Jun^r to pay for one Months Schoolling which is not yet Completed.

Voted £ 10—0—0

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of y^e Town of Topsfield Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby Notified and warned to Conveen & Assemble att the meeting house in S^d Topsfield on Thursday the fourteenth Day of May Instant; at three of Clock in the after noon.

1 To one person to Serve at y^e Great and General Court y^e year Ensuing

2 To See if y^e Town will make Choice of Some Meet persons to Serve the Town as School Committe the year Ensuing or See if the Town will agree upon a Man for a Schoolmaster the year Ensuing

3 To See if the Town will Grant Liberty in our Meeting house below for pews in y^e East & South & west parts of Said house and to be five feet Deep and Six feet in Length also to see whether the Town Will Sell all their right in the room all the Convenient Room for pews to the highest bidder: which is the Towns So as be Record may appear all to the highest bidder whether the pews are now built or, to be built

4 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield May y^e 7th 1747.

John Gould Constable of Topsfield	John Wildes Benja ^a Towne Nath ^l Averill Jun ^r Richard Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
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the above is a True Copy of the Notification
attest Jacob Peabod[y] Town Clerk

Att A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield May fourteenth 1747.

1 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Representative for y^e year Ensuing Voted there being other business to be Done therefore

2 Voted that Cap^t John Wildes shall be Moderator for this meeting

3 And the Question was put whether the Town would Sell y^e Room for Pews as Mentioned in the Notification it passed in the Negative

4 the Town Allowed four Shillings & three pence old Tenor to Mr George Bixby it being an abatement of George Dodges Rates in 1743. Voted 0—4—3

5 The Town Allowed three pounds & Six Shillings old Tenor to Cap^t John Wildes for Court Charges about the Towns presentment for want of a School master y^e Last year 3—6—0 Voted

6 The Town Allowed Seven Shillings and Six pence to Cap^t John Wildes for A Latch for the Meeting West Door Voted 0—7—6

Boston 28 May 1747 Rec^d of mr Jacob Perkins Constable of Topsfield Twenty Pounds seven shillings 4^d in full

W^m Foye Treas^r

This is a True Copy Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Topsfield June 4th 1747 Rec^d of Jacob Peabody Town Treasurer The Sum of Eight pounds old Tenor and of Nathaniel Averill Jun^r one of the School Committee the Sum of forty shillings old Tenor, in full for Serving the Town of Topsfield as Schoolmaster. Benj^m Rogers

This is a True Copy Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Topsfield March y^e 17th 1746: Rec^d of mr Jacob Peabody Town Treasurer the Sum of Ten pounds old Tenor in full for My keeping School in this Town I Say Rec^d by me

Nathaniel Rogers

This is a True Copy attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The free holders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are Notified to Meet and Assemble At the Meeting house in S^d Topsfield on Tuseday the Twenty Second Day of September Instant at two of the Clock in the afternoon on S^d Day

- 1 To Choose Jury men for Newbury Court
- 2 To Raise Money to Defray Town Charges the year Ensuing
- 3 To See if y^e Town will Grant y^e Petition of John Lefavour, as to a house Lot

4 To allow Bills of Charge

Topsfield September y^e 2nd 1747

John Wildes	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Richard Towne	
Nath ^l Averil Jun ^r	
Thomas Baker	

This is a True Copy of y^e Notification,

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield September 22nd 1747

- 1 Mr Benjamin Towne is Chosen Moderator for this meeting
Voted

2 mr Ephraim Wildes & mr Thomas Symonds are appointed to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at y^e next Inferiour Court to be holden at Newbury and then the Town Voted that this Meeting should be adjourned to the fifth Day of October next Accordingly the moderator Adjourned the Meet to S^d Day at three of y^e Clock in the after noon

At A Legall Town meeting in Topsfield by Adjournment from the 22nd of Sep^t Last to the fifth of October 1747 and being met

- 1 Town Agreed that the Selectmen Shall Raise a Tax of four hundred pounds old Tenor (Excluding the County Tax,) to Defray the Charges of the Town for y^e year Ensuing, besides Mr Emerson Salary
voted

2 Town Allowed to Cap^t John Wildes Eight pounds Ten Shillings and Eight pence to pay for the mending the meeting house glass
voted 8—10—8

3 The Town allowed to mr Matthew Peabody Ten shillings old Tenor for Timber to mend the River bridge
0—10—0

4 The Town Allowed to Cap^t John Wildes thirty shillings old Tenor for four Days tendance at the Courts to answer y^e presentment for want of a School
Voted 1—10—0

The free holders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs, are warned to

Meet at the Meeting house in Said Town on Munday the Second Day of November next at two of the Clock in y^e after noon

1 To Choose Jury men for Salem Court according to warrant

2 To See if the Town will Make any further Addition to the Reverend Mr Emerson More than his Stated Salary from March Last to March Next

3 To See if the Town will answer the Prayer of the Petition of mr John Prichard.

4 To See if the Town will give Leave that the Select Men Draw the money out of the Town Treasury to pay the Towns fine for want of a School which is Six pounds thirteen Shillings & four pence New Tenor

Dat^d Topsfield October y^e 27th 1747

Israel Clark
Constable of Topsfield

John Wildes
Thomas Baker
Richard Towne } Selectmen
of Topsfield

This is a True Copy of the Notification,

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The free holders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs, are warned to Meet at the Meeting house in Said Town on Munday the Second Day of November next at two of the Clock in y^e after noon

1 To Choose Jury men for Salem Court according to Warrant

2 To Raise Money to Defray Town Charges the year Ensuing

3 To See if y^e Town will grant y^e Petition of John Lefavour, as to a house Lot

4 To allow Bills of Charge

John Wildes
Richard Towne
Nath^l Averil Jun^r
Thomas Baker } Selectmen
of Topsfield

This is a True Copy of y^e Notification,

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield November y^e 2nd 1747

1 Mr Thomas Baker is Chosen moderator for this meeting
voted

2 Mr Benjamin Towne is Chosen to Serve on y^e Grand jury at y^e next Superiour Court to be holden at Salem. Voted

3 Cap^t Joseph Gould is appointed to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls to be holden at Salem, on y^e 2nd Tuseday of November Instant

4 The Town agreed that the Selectmen Should Draw Money

out of Town Treasury to pay the Towns fine for want of a School. Voted

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby Notified to meet and Assemble at the Meeting house in Topsfield afore S^d on Tuseday the first Day of March next Ensuing at Nine of the Clock in y^e forenoon on S^d Day

1 To Choose a Town Clerk, Constables and other Town officers as the Law Directs

2 To See what the Town will give the Reverend mr John Emerson More than his yearly Salary besides what is already Voted him for y^e year A: D: 1747

3 To See what the Town will give the reverend mr John Emerson more than his yearly Salary the year Ensuing

4 To See if the Town will agree to build a School house or School houses for the Town and Choose a Committee to Do the Work and Say where they shall Stand

5 To See in what way or manner the Town will have Town Meetings Warned for the future

6 To Accept of the Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer

7 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dated at Topsfield February 11th 1747:

Israel Clarke Constable of Topsfield	Benj ^a Towne Nath ^l Averill Jur ^r Tho ^s Baker	} Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Legall Town meeting in Topsfield March 1st 1747/8

1 Lieu^t Benjamin Towne is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting. Voted

2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y^e year Ensuing Voted

3 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Treasurer for y^e year Ensuing Voted

4 Samuel Perkins and Stephen Towne Are Chosen Constables for the year Ensuing Voted

5 Cap^t John Wilds Richard Towne Nath^l Averill Jur, Thomas Baker & Lieu^t Benj^a Towne are Chosen Selectmen for y^e year Ensuing Voted

6 Simon Gould, John Davis, and Thomas Perkins are Chosen Tything men for y^e year Ensuing Voted

7 Joseph Edwards is Chosen Sealler of Leather for y^e year Ensuing Voted

8 Elisha Towne, Thomas Symonds & Zacheus Gould are Chosen Surveyers of highways for y^e year Ensuing. Voted

9 Dan Clarke, Joseph Peabody & Jeremiah Towne are Chosen fence Viewers for y^e year Ensuing Voted

10 Matthew Peabody & William Rogers are Chosen to Prosecute the Breakers of y^e Late Act Concerning Deer Voted

11 Jacob Robinson & Jacob Dorman are Chosen Hogreeves for the year Ensuing Voted

12 The Town accepted of y^e Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer and there remains in S^d Treasurers hand not ordered out Three hundred Twenty Eight pounds five Shillings and ten pence

13 The Town accepted of Israel Clarke to Serve as Constable in Stead and for Samuel Perkins Voted

14 The Town allowed to Solomon Gould one pound Seventeen Shillings for Twenty rails & ten Days work in repairing the parsonage fence the Last year in old Tenor 1—17—0 Voted

15 The Town Allowed to Samuel Bradstreet Seven pounds old Tenor for Thirty Posts and thirty rails and Carting them and three Days work in repairing the parsonage fence the Last year Voted 7—0—0

16 The Town Allowed to Solomon Gould one pound for Timber to mend the Highways Voted 1—0—0

17 The Town allowed to Nathaniel Hood Seventeen shillings And Nine pence for Thirty feet of Plank to mend the Bridge over Howlets Book (So Called) the Last year Voted 0—17—9

18 The Town Allowed to the Selectmen one pound & nine Shillings old Tenor for their Expences when Middleton forgave us their part of our fine for want of a School. Voted 1—9—0

19 The Town allowed to John Prichard four pounds old Tenor for mending and Sweeping y^e meeting house Voted 4—0—0

20 The Town agreed that the Selectmen Should Give a Warrant to the Constable or Constables to warn Town meetings Except when they May be warned on stated Lecture Days Voted

21 The Town Allowed to John Batchelder five Shillings old Tenor for a Plank to Lay on falls Bridge (So Called) in y^e year 1745 Voted 0—5—0

22 The Town Allowed to Jacob Averill one pound Twelve shillings And Six old Tenor it being an abatement of John Prichards Rates for the year 1746 Voted 1—12—8

23 The Town allowed to Thomas Symonds one pound Eighteen Shillings for Plank and Timber to mend the highways y^e Last year Voted 1—18—0

24 The Town Allowed to mr Nath^l Rogers forty pound old Tenor for Serving the Town as School master in y^e year past
Voted 40—0—0

Elish Towne being Chosen field Driver for Stickey Meadow Common fields was Sworn before the Selectmen of Topsfield March 1st 1747/8

The Several officers that were Chosen at y^e above S^d meeting were all Sworn to faithfull Discharge of their Respective offices on y^e first and fourth Days of S^d March Except William Rogers & Stephen Towns and Entered by order of the Selectmen
Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

To Israel Clarke Constable in Topsfield Greeting. in his Majesties Name you are Required to warn all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs to Assemble & meet at the Meeting house in S^d Topsfield on Thursday the Twenty fourth Day of March Instant at three of the Clock in y^e afternoon

1 To Choose Jury men to Serve at Ipswich Court

2 To see if the Town will Make any further addition to the Reverend mr Emersons Salary for the year 1747. and what they will add to his Salary for y^e year Ensuing.

3 To See if Town will accept of a man to Serve as Constable in y^e room of Stephen Towne 4^{ly} To Choose a School Committee for y^e year Ensuing

5 To Choose a Committe to take Care of the Parsonage fence and for the Town to give instructions about it

6 To See if y^e Town will agree y^t y^e Swine go at Large y^e year Ensuing and Make return of this warrant to one or more of the Selectmen as you will answer the Contrary at the perrill of the Law.

Dat^d Topsfield March 15th 1747

Richard Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Nath ^l Averill Jun ^r	
Tho ^s Baker	

A True Copy of y^e warrant

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Topsfield March 22^d 1747 by vertue of this warrant, I have notified the Inhabitants Duly Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs to appear at time and place within mentioned
Israel Clarke Constable of Topsfield

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield March 24th 1747/8

1 Cap^t Joseph Gould is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting
Voted

2 Mr Matthew Peabody is Chosen Grand Jury man for y^e year
Ensuing Voted

3 Mr Jacob Averill & Phillip Towne are appointed to Serve
on the Pettit Jury at the Next Inferiour Court to be holden at
Ipswich Voted

4 The Town Accepted of mr Dan Clarke to Serve as Consta-
ble in Stead and for Stephen Towne who was Chosen Constable
on y^e first Instant Voted

5 Mr Israel Clarke John Baker & Thomas Perkins are Chosen
a Committee to provide a School Master for y^e Town for y^e year
Ensuing. Voted

6 Mr Aaron Hovey and Samuel Smith are Chosen to take
Care of the Parsonage fence the year Ensuing Voted

7 Inasmuch as the prise of y^e Necessaries of Life have greatly
Risen Since Last March Therefore Voted that there be allowed
and paid out of the Town Treasurey one hundred pounds old
Tenor to the Reverend Mr John Emerson to make Good his
Salary for the Last year Ending the Second Day of this Instant
March.

8 The Town agreed to Give to the Reverend mr John
Emerson one hundred & fifty pounds old Tenor besides his
Stated Salary in full for his Salary the Next half year viz from
the Second Day of this Instant March to the Second Day of
September Next Voted

9 The Town agree that Swine May Go at Large this year
According as the Law gives Liberty Voted

Mr Dan Clarke was Sworn to the office of Constable for
Topsfield March 24 1748

Boston 6 Aprill 1748 Rec^d of mr Jacob Averill Constable of
Topsfield Twenty two pounds one Shillings 8^d in full for 1746
W^m Foye Treas^r

Boston 6 Aprill 1748 Rec^d of mr John Towne Constable of
Topsfield Thirty Seven pounds two shillings L E Full
W^m Foye Treas^r

The two receipts above written are True Copies
Attest Jacob Peabody Town Cle

Mr William Rogers was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of
his office Viz To Prosecute y^e Breakers of the Late act Con-
cerning Deer. May 16th 1748

Rec^d of Cap^t John Wildes, Sixteen Shillings & Six pence New Tenor for Cost of the Town of Topsfield being presented for Deficiency of a School Aprill 27 : 1748. John Appleton

Ipswich March 31 : 1748 Received of Cap^t John Wildes Seven pounds Sixteen Shillings & Ten pence in full for the Town of Topsfields proportion of the County Tax for y^e year 1747
Dan^l Appleton County Trea

the two Last receipts above written are True Copies
attest Ja^b Peabody Town Clerk

We the Subscribers being appointed & Impowered be the Selectmen of both Towns Namely of Topsfield & Wenham to Perambulate & Renew the bounds between our S^d Towns; Have this Day Met, and have Renewed the bounds between our Said Towns as followeth Begining at a White oak Stump near Theophilus Fisks barn it being Salem Northerly Corner bounds, thence Easterly to A Stake and heap of Stones on y^e West Side of the Road Leading from Wenham Causeway to Bunkers Meadow by the Stone wall, from thence to the Plump of Maples So Called : but now a Stump : and thence as the Brook runneth to a Stake and heap of Stones at the Going over the Brook : from thence to the Southeasterly Corner of Pigdens Meadow (So Called) and So to the River all Which is according to the Settlement in the year 1740 and in Confirmation of all above written we have hereunto Set to our hands Dat^d Aprill y^e 18th 1748

Richard Towne	} for Topsfield	David Batchelder	} for
Thomas Baker		Samuel Batchelder	
		Samuel Tarbox Jun ^r	

A True Copy Examined P Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

We the Subscribers being appointed and Impowered to Perambulate and Renew the Bounds between Salem and Topsfield, according have mett on the third Day of May A : D : 1748 and Renewed the bounds as followeth Begining at a White oak Stump with a heap of Stones about it Near Wenham Causeway, and from thence to a black or Red oak Stump with a heap of Stones Standing in Sam^l Gotts orchard; and from thence to a heap of Stones near the Corner of Thomas Dwinels pasture Late of Topsfield Deceased, and from thence to a heap of Stones near Nickolses Brook and So on the Same Course till it Comes to the Brook

Matthew Peabody
Aaron Estey
Richard Towne

Israel Andrews
James Putnam
Stephen Putnam
David Putnam

A True Copy of the return

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

To Israel Clark one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting you are Required to warn & Notifie all the freeholders and other inhabitants Quallified as the Law Directs for voting belonging to the North Ward in S^d Topfield To Convene and Assemble at the meeting house in Said on Monday the 16th Day of May Currant at three of the Clock in the afternoon on S^d Day first to Choose one Good and Lawfull Man to Represent the Town at the Great & General Court the year Ensuing. Secondly to see if the Town will Grant Liberty for Mr Joseph Peabody to Erect a Gate a Crose the way that Leads to S^d Peabodys Mill by bird Swamp So Called thirdly to allow Bills of Charge and make return of this warrant unto one of the Selectmen as you will Answer y^e Contrary

Dat^d Topsfield May y^e 10th 1748

John Wilds	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Richard Towne	
Nath ^l Averill Jun ^r	

Topsfield May 14th 1748 by virtue of this warrant I have Notified all the Inhabitants that are Quallified for Voting in the ward within mentioned to appear at time and Place according to warrant

Israel Clark Constable of Topsfield

The south ward were warned in Like manner & return made

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield May 16th 1748

1 Jacob Peabody is Chosen to Represent the Town at the General Court the year Ensuing Voted

there being other business to be Done at S^d meeting

2 Cap^t Ivory Hovey is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting

Voted

3 The Town Gave Liberty to Mr Joseph Peabody to hange a Carte Gate A Crose the way that Leads to S^d Peabodys Mill by or near bird Swamp from Said peabodys Pasture to Mr Bordmans fence And to Stand two years Voted

4 The Town Allowed to John Towne a former Constable two pounds & two Shillings old Tenor it being an abatement of Noah Curtises Rates for y^e year 1746 Voted 2—2—0

5 The Town allowed to Cap^t John Wildes one pound & four Shillings for Makeing return to the Court of the warnning of Several persons out of Town Voted 1—4—0

6 The Town allowed to the Selectmen Seven pounds old Tenor 7—0—0 to pay Mr Nathaniel Rogers for keeping School in y^e Last year Voted

7 The Town allowed to Jacob Perkins a former Constable two pounds & one shilling it being an abatement of John Prichards Rates for the year 1745 Voted 2—1—0

To Israel Clarke one of the Constables of Topsfield Greeting
In his Majesties Name you are required to Notify and warn the freeholders & other Inhabitants in the North ward in Topsfield Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs To Assemble and Meet together at the Meeting house in Topsfield on thursday y^e Twenty Second Day of this Instant September, at two of the Clock in the afternoon on S^d Day

1 To Choose Jury men for Newbury & Salem Courts according to Warrants

2 To See how much money the Town will raise to Defray the Charges for the year Ensuing

3 To See how much money the Town will allow the Reverend mr John Emerson More than his Stated Salary from September 1748 to March 1748/9

4 To allow Bills of Charge. And make timely return of this your Warrant to one or more of the Selectmen of Topsfield

Dated Topsfield Sep^t y^e 15th 1748

John Wildes	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Nath ^l Averill Jun ^r	
Richard Towne	

Topsfield September 21st 1748 By Vertue of this warrant I have Notified the Inhabitants within mentioned to appear at time and Place according to Warrant

Israel Clarke Constable of Topsfield

This is a True Copy of the warrant, and return Jacob Peabody
T: Clerk

At A Legal Town meeting in Topsfield Sep^t 22nd 1748.

1 Mr George Bixby is Chosen Moderator for this meeting

Voted

2 Tho^s Baker is Chosen Clerk for this meeting

Voted

3 mr Simon Gould & mr Samuel Smith were Drawn out of y^e box to Serve on the Jury of Tryals at Newbury Court

4 The Town agreed to Raise five hundred pounds old Tenor to Defray Town Charges the year Ensuing Voted

5 The Town agreed to give to the Reverend mr Emerson one hundred and fifty pounds old Tenor More than his Stated Salary from the Second Day of Sep^t 1748 to the Second Day of March 1748/9 Provided mr Emerson will give a Receipt in full for the year 1748 Voted

6 The Town allowed to y^e School Committe Viz Israel Clarke Thomas Perkins and John Baker fifteen pounds old Tenor

Voted 15—0—0

7 The Town allowed to Samuel Smith three pounds Eleven Shillings & Six pence old Tenor for mending the parsonage fence this year Voted 3—11—6

8 The Town allowed to Aaron Hovey three pounds & one Shilling old Tenor for Mending the parsonage fence this year Voted 3—1—0

9 The Town allowed to Deacon Hovey four Shillings old Tenor for a String piece for a Bridge Voted 0—4—0

10 Mr Daniel Redington is Chosen to Serve on y^e Grand Jury at the next Superiour Court to be holden at Salem Voted

11 Mr George Bixby is Drawn out of y^e box to Serve on the pettit Jury at the Next Superiour Court to be holden at Salem

Thomas Baker Clerk

George Bixby Moderator.

Topsfield October 17th 1738 then Rec^d of mr Israel Clarke Constable the Sum of thirty four pound & one Shilling in full for his Rates Committed to him to gather and pay into Self I Say received

by me Ivory Hovey Town Treasurer

Boston April 25: 1739 Rec^d of mr Israel Clarke Constable of Topsfield P hand of Cap^t Gould Twenty Seven pounds Sixteen Shillings & Six pence in full

W^m Foye Treas^r

the two Receipts above written are True Copies

attest Jacob Peabody Town Cler

We the Subscribers being a Committee apointed by the Towns of Topsfield & Boxford to Perambulate on & Renew the bounds between the S^d Towns and this Day we have met & Renewed the Bounds as followeth in the Apple tree in Asa Perleys field, then at a Stake & heap of Stones at the South Easterly Corner of Bakers farm in Boxford. then where the watter Runs throw the Dam Call Andrews Dam near mr Thomas Goulds house

then at a Stake & a heap of Stones by the fishing Brook on the Easterly Side of the Rivolet Runing into S^d Brook then as the Brook now Runs into Ipswich River. then up S^d River to Middleton Line.

Dated this 17th Day of May Anno Domini 1748

Joseph Dorman
Jacob Smith
Tho^s Baker
Joshua Andrew

The above Written is a True Copy of the Return of Perambulation with Boxford

attest Jacob Peabody T : Cler

We have Perambulated and Renewed y^e Bounds between Topsfield and Middleton as followeth viz Begining at a heap of stones in y^e Brook near the Saw Mill, from thence as the Brook Runs to a Small Elmn Tree at y^e Northeasterly Branch of Said Brook, thence as the Northeasterly Branch Runs to a heap of Stones by the River.

Topsfield May y^e 19: 1748

Benjamin Knight	}	Committee
Daniel Robinson		
Samuel Symonds Jun ^r		

A True Copy

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Topsfield December 16th 1748 Rec^d of mr Jacob Peabody Town Treasurer the sum of fifty pounds old Tenor the full of y^e within written order and in full for my Salary to March Second: 1747/8

by me John Emerson Clerk

This is a True Copy of the receipt

Attest Jacob Peabody T : Cle

Boston 11th Jan^u 1748 Rec^d of Mr Israel Clarke Constable of Topsfield Thirty pounds L E in full for 1747

W^m Foye Treas^r

this is a True Copy of y^e province Treasurers Receipt

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Topsfield March 7th 1748/9 Rec^d of mr Jacob Peabody Town Treasurer the Sum of Seventy pounds old Tenor in full for my Salary till September 2nd 1748

by me John Emerson Clerk.

This is a True Copy of mr Emersons Receipt

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The Freeholder and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby Notified & Warned to Assemble and Convene together at the Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday y^e Seventh Day of March next Ensuing the Date hereof at nine of the Clock in the Morning

1 To Chuse a Town Clerk, Constables, Selectmen and other Town officers As the Law Directs

2 To See What y^e Town will Allow the Reverend mr John Emerson besides his Stated Salary for y^e year Ensuing

5 To See if the Town will appoint a Day for those who have Stray Sheep to bring them to y^e Town pound that y^e owners may the more readdily find them

4 To Allow Bills of Charge

Dat^d Topsfield February y^e 23rd 1748

Dan Clarke

Constable of Topsfield

John Wildes

Benj^a Towne

Nath^l Averill Jun^r

Thomas Baker

Richard Towne

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

The above written is a True Copy

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield March y^e 7th 1748/9

1 Mr George Bixby is Chosen Moderator for this meeting

Voted

2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

3 Mr George Bixby is Chosen Town Treasurer for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

4 Mr John Davis & Jeremiah Towne are Chosen Constables for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

5 Mr Richard Towne Cap^t John Wildes, David Balch, John Gould and George Bixby are Chosen Selectmen for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

6 the above S^d Selectmen are Chosen Assessors for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

7 Mr Samuel Smith Zacheus Gould & Joseph Perkins are Chosen Tythingmen for y^e year Ensuing

8 Mr Joseph Edwards is Chosen Sealer of Leather for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

9 Mr Thomas Baker Israel Clarke and Elijah Porter are Chosen Surveyers of high ways for y^e year Ensuing

Voted

10 Mr Dan Clarke Matthew Peabody & Luke Averill are

Chosen fence Viewers for y^e year Ensuing Voted

11 Mr Daniell Redington & Cap^t Joseph Gould are Chosen to prosecute the brakers of y^e Late Act Concerning Deer for y^e year Ensuing Voted

12 Mr Solomon Gould & Cornelious Balch are Chosen Hog-reeves for y^e year Ensuing Voted

13 The Town Accepted of y^e Selectmens Reckoning with y^e Town Treasurer and there is in S^d Treasurers hand Not ordred out 330—0—7 Voted

14 The Town Allowed fifteen pounds old Tenor to Thomas Perkins & Others the School Committee to pay the School-master for one Months Service in keep School Voted 15—0—0

15 The Town allowed three pounds & ten shillings old Tenor to Israel Clarke for Warning three Town Meeting y^e year past Voted 3—10—0

16 The Town Allowed one pound Twelve Shillings old Tenor to Zacheus Gould for Timber & Plank to mend y^e River Bridge Voted 1—12

17 The Town Allowed to Cap^t John Wildes four pound thirteen Shillings and three pence old Tenor to pay for mending the Meeting house Glass in y^e year past Voted 4—13—3

18 The Town allowed to John Prichard one pound old Tenor for Sweeping the Meeting house three months Voted 1—0—0

19 The Town allowed Nathaniell Towne three pounds old Tenor for Sweeping y^e Meeting House Nine Months Voted 3—0—0

20 The Town allowed to Dan Clarke two pound old Tenor for warning two Town Meetings & for keeping a glazer & his horse while he Mended the Meeting House glass in y^e year past Voted 2—0—0

21 The Town Allowed to John Hood one pound & two Shillings for Timber & Plank to mend y^e bridge by y^e great Pond Voted 1—2—0

22 The Town Allowed to John Gould one pound old Tenor it being an abatement of Samuel Masties Town Rate for 174— Voted 1—0—0

23 Mr Solomon Gould is Chosen to Serve on y^e grand Jury for y^e year Ensuing Voted

24 Mr Aaron Estey & Stephen Towne are appointed to Serve on y^e Jury of Tryals at y^e next Inferiour Court to be holden at Ipswich

The Several officers that were Chosen at the above Said meeting were all Sworn before the Selectmen on y^e S^d 7th &

y^e 14th and the Twenty first Day of Said March: Except the Assessors: and Entered by order of the Selectmen:

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk.

To Mr John Davis Constable of y^e Town of Topsfield you are Required In his Majesties Name To warn the freeholders and other Inhabitants of this Town belonging to the North Ward So Called. Qualified for Voting as the Law Directs. To appear at y^e Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday the Twenty first Day of this Instant at two of y^e Clock in the after noon on Said Day

1 To Chuse Several Selectmen in y^e room of them that Refuse to Serve

2 To See What y^e Town will Do Relating to Reverend mr Emersons Salary for y^e year Ensuing

3 To Chuse Men to take Care of the Parsonage fence

4 To Chuse a School Committee for y^e year Ensuing

5 To See if the Town will give Liberty for Swine to go at Large this year

6 To Choose a man or more to Mend the pound

7 To see what the Town will Do in Answer to a Petition Concerning two pews in the Meeting house Hereby you are not to fail as you will answer the Contrary at y^e Prerrill of y^e Law: and make return at time and Place to one or More of y^e Selectmen. Given under our hands at Topsfield this fourteenth Day of March 1748/9

David Balch }
John Wildes } Selectmen
John Gould } of Topsfield

This is a True Copy of y^e warrant as attest

Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

A proper Return being made of warning the Inhabitants y^e meet[ing] follows

At A Lawful Town Meeting in Topsfield March 21st 1748/9

1 Capt John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting

voted

2 Mr Matthew Peabody & mr Samuel Smith are Chosen Selectmen in y^e room of Mr George Bixby and mr Richard Towne

Voted

3 Capt Joseph Gould & mr Ephraim Wildes are Chosen to take Care of the parsonage fence the year Ensuing

Voted

4 Voted that mr Aaron Hovey mr John Bradstreet & Cornelius Balch be a Committee to provide a School master for y^e Town for y^e year Ensuing

5 Mr Simon Gould is Chosen to Mend the Pound Voted

6 The Town Agreed to give five pounds old Tenor to mr John Baker provided he will give to the Town all the right which he Claims to the pew which is Next ye Pulpit Stairs in the Meeting house Voted 5—0—0

7 Voted That the Pew which Mrs Priscilla Capen Late of Topsfield Deceased Use to Sit in Which is next the pulpit Stairs Shall be for the Reverend Mr John Emersons use for Mrs Emerson and family to Sit in During the time of Ministry amongst us: provided Mr Emerson will Quit the pew Mrs Emerson now Sits in and Leave it for the Town.

8 Capt Joseph Gould Capt John Wildes and Jacob Peabody are Chosen a Committee to Inform Mr Emerson what the Town have Done Relating to the pews above mentioned Voted

To the Town of Topsfield. Gentlemen, whereas at your meeting in March 21: 1748/9 you were please to Vote to My use the pew that Mad^m Capen Late of Topsfield Deceased, was wont to Sit in: provided I Quit the pew wherein my wife used to Sit. Now this is to Signify that I accept the Vote as you have passed it

Topsfield March 30th 1749 John Emerson Clerk

This is a True Copy of mr Emersons answer :

attest Jacob Peabody T: Cle

Topsfield Aprill 3: 1749 Rec^d two hundred pounds old Tenor y^e full of My Salary to March 2: 1748/9 by me

John Emerson Clerk

this is a True Copy of Mr Emersons Receipt

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Rec^d of mr Matthew Peabody the Sum of five pounds Seventeen Shillings and three pence in full for the Town of Topsfield: their Proportion of the County Tax for the year 1748

this 29th of March 1749 Dan Appleton County Treas.

This is a True Copy of y^e County Treasurers Receipt

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Topsfield Aprill 3rd 1749 Rec^d of Jacob Peabody Town Treasurer five pounds old Tenor in full for all My right title and Interest which I have or may and lay Claim Challenge or Demand in or unto the pue which is next ye Pulpit Stairs in the Meeting House agreeable to the Vote of the Town Relating to Said pue by me John Baker

This is a True Copy of Mr John Bakers Receipt

attest Jacob Peabody T: Clerk

Topsfield December y^e 7th 1748 Rec^d of mr John Gould Constable of Topsfield the Sum of Ninty pounds thirteen Shillings in full by me Jacob Peabody Town Treasurer

Boston December 21 : 1748 Rec^d of Mr John Gould Constable of Topsfield Thirty two pounds Nine Shillings Six pence L E full W^m Foye Treas^r

These two Last are True Copies

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Att a Legall Towne meeting in Topsfield May 17th 1749 Mr Jacob Peabody is Chosen to Represent y^e Towne at the Generall Court The year Insuing

there Being other Business to be Don[e] at Said Meeting Capt John Wildes is Chosen Moderator for this meeting Voted

The Towne allowed to M^r George Bixby one Pound five Shillings old Tenour for a String Peice for y^e Towne Bridge ouer the River voted

The Towne allowed to the School Committe Thirteen Pound old Tenour to Pay y^e School master for Keeping School one Month Last Spring voted

The Towne allowed to Jacob Perkins a former Constable one Pound four Shilling old Tenor it being an abatment of Jonathan Dressers head

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Qualified for Voting as the Law Directs are hearby Notified Warned to assemble and meet Together at y^e meeting house in Said Town on Wednesday the Seunteenth Day of May Instant at Two of the Clock in the after noon on Said Day

1ly To make Choice of a man to Represent y^e Town at the grate and generall Court according to Presept

2ly To alow Bills of Charges

John Wildes	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Balch	
Mathew Peabody	
John Gould	
Sam ^{ll} Smith	

Dated Topsfield may y^e 2nd 1749

Jeremiah Towne Constable

It is to be Under Stood y^t the Notefication Should have Been Entered before the Trancesacion of the aboue Said Day before mentioned Entred By order of the Select men of Topsfield

This is a True Copey of the Notification

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

The free holders and other Inhabitation of the Town of Topsfield Qualified for Voting in Town Meetings as The Law Directs are hereby Notified and Warned to assemble and meet Together at the Meeting house in Said Town on Thursday the Seuenth Day of September Next at one of y^e Clock in the after noon on S^d Day

1 To Chuse a Suitable Person to Represent the Town at the Sessions of the Generall Court according to Precept

2 To Chouse of a Town Clerk as the Law Directs

3 To Chouse Jury men for Newbury Court according To Precept

4 To See What money the Town will Raise to Defray the Charges of the Town for the year Insuing

5 To See after what Manner the Town will Dispose of the old Timber of the old Pound

6 To allow Bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield august y^e 28th 1749

Jeremiah Towne

Constable

John Wildes

Mathew Pebody

John Gould

Sam^{ll} Smith

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

A True Copy of the notification

attest Rich^d Towne Town Clerk

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield Sept y^e 7th 1749

The Town assembled together to make Choise of a Repsentiuue and it was Put to Vote and it Past in The negtive and their Being other Things to be Done

1 Cap^t John Willdes was Chosen Modrater to order the affars of Said meeting Voted

2 Richard Towne is Chosen Town Clerk Voted Sworne

3 The Town made Choise of mr Joseph Peabody and Nathen Hood for Jury men to Serve at Newbury Court

4 The Town agreed y^t the Selectmen Should Lay a Tax of Sixty Three pounds in the Last Emishion on the Inhabitation of the Town To Defray the Charges of Said Town for the year Insuing Voted

5 The Town allowed to Elisha Towne for Slabes To mend Sum Bridges with fifteen Shillings old Tenor Voted

6 The Town allowed to the School Commitee Viz To Aaron houey and Cornealus Balch Twenty fue pounds old Tenor In parte Voted

7 The Town abated George Dwinells Rates for the year one Thousand Seuen hundred and forty Eight in mr Dan Clarke former Constabels Rates Voted

Essex as To Mr John Davis Constable of ye North Ward in the Town of Topsfield Greeting

In his Majesties Name you are Required forthwith

To Warn all ye freeholders and other Inhabitants Within your ward Qualified for Voting in Town meetings as ye Law Directs to assemble and Conven Together att the meeting House in Topsfield afore S^d on Tusday ye Tenth Day of October Instant at Two of the Clock in the after noon on Said Day

1 To Chuse Jury men for Salem Court according to Warrant

2 To allow Bills of Charge

hearof you are not to fail and make Return of your Doings hearin at the time and place above mentioned as you will answer ye Contrary at ye Perill of ye Law

In that Case Provided Dated Topsfield October ye 2nd 1749 The South Ward was Warned in Like manner & Return made

John Daves

John Willdes

David Balch

Mathew Peabody

John Gould

Sam^{ll} Smith

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

A True Coppey of the Warrant and the Return

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield october ye 10th 1749

1 Capt John Willdes is Chosen Moderator for this meeting
Voted

2 The Town made Choice of m^r John Gould to Serve on The Grand Jury at ye Next Supear Court to be holden at Salem
Voted

3 Capt Thomas Baker was Drawn out of the Box for a Jury man at the next Supear Court to be holden at Salem

4 The Town allowed to m^r Aaron Hovey and others School Comm^{tee} Twenty five Pounds old Tenor for the School Master
Voted

5 The Town alowed to mr Daniel Redington Thirteen Pounds old Tenor for Plank for the Reuer Bridge
Voted

Topsfield October ye 2th 1749 Rec^d of Mr Dan Clarke Constable ye Sum of one hundred Twenty Eight Pounds Eight Shillings and four Pence old Tenor In full of all his orders aggreeable to Warrant I Say Rec^d by Me George Byxby Town Treasurer

A True Coppey

attest Rich^d Towne Town Clerk

Topsfield Febuary ye 8th 1749 Receued of mr George Bixby
Town Treasurer ye Sum of Twenty Three Pounds five Shillings
ye full of ye within written order and in full for my salary to
March ye 2nd 1749 by me John Emerson Clerk

A True Copey attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

The Freeholders And Other Inhabatance of ye Town of Tops-
field Qualified for Voting as the Law Directs are hearby Note-
fied and warned to assemble And Conven together att the Meet-
ing House in Said Town on Tuesday ye 6th Day of March Next
Ensuing att nine of ye Clock in ye fore noon on Said Day

1 To Chuse A Town Clerk Constables Selectmen and Other
Town officers as the Law Directs

2 To See if ye Town Will Except of ye Selectmens Reckening
With the Town Treasurer

3 To Chouse Juory men for Ipswich Court according to
Warrant

4 For ye Town to Bring Their Votes for a County Treasurer

5 To alow Bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield Febuary ye 20th 1749

John Willdes	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Balch	
Mathew Peabody	
John Gould	
Sam ^{ll} Smith	

In Obedence to ye Law I haue Notified ye freeholders and
other Inhabatance of ye Town of Topsfield to meet att Time
and Place Within mentioned by Posting this Notification as
Usual Per me Jeremiah Towne Constable of Topsfield

A True Copey of ye Notification and of the Return
attest Rich^d Towne Town Clerk

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield March ye 6th 1749/50

1 Cap^t John Willdes is Chosen modrater for this meting
Voted

2 Richard Towne is Chosen Town Clerk for ye year Ensuing
Voted

3 Mr Samuel Smith mr Simon Gould are Chosen Constables
for the year Ensuing Voted

4 Leu^t Beniamon Towne mr John Gould mr Matthew Pea-
body Cap^t John Willdes mr Elijah Porter are Chosen Selectmen
for ye year Ensuing Voted

5 Leu^t Benja^a Towne Is Chosen Town Treasurer for The year
Ensuing Voted

6 Mr Thomas Symonds Mr Aaron Hovey Mr Nathan Hood
are Chosen Tything men for y^e Year Ensuing Voted

7 Mr Joseph Edwards is Chosen Sealer of Lather for y^e year
Ensuing Voted

8 Mr Luke Auirel Deacon Daniel Gould Mr Uzziel Rea Mr
David Towne are Chosen Surveyers of High Ways for y^e year
Ensuing Voted

9 Mr Jacob Perkins m^r John Bathelder m^r Nathaniel Porter
are Chosen fence Viewers for y^e year Ensuing Voted

Mr John Bradstreet Mr Joseph Perkins are Chosen to Prose-
cute y^e Brakers of y^e Late Act Consening Deers Voted

10 Mr Dan Clark Mr Jacob Robinson are Chosen Hog reauers
for y^e year Ensuing Voted

11 The Town Excepted of y^e Selectmens Reckoning with The
Town Treasurer Voted

12 The Town allowed to Capt Thomas Baker 1—4—6 It
being an abatment of his Son John Head he being not with
age Voted

13 Leut Joseph Dorman is Chosen Grand Jury [man] for y^e year
Ensuing Voted

14 Mr John Perkins Jr and Mr Elisha Towne was Drawn out
of y^e Box for Jury of Tryals at y^e next Infearer Court to be
holden at Ipswich

15 The Town Alowed to Israel Clarke Constable 1—13—0
It being an abatment of Thomas Aurill Rate In the year 1748

16 The Town alowed To Mr Aaron Hovey and others School
Committee for y^e School master Voted 12—10—00

17 The Town alowed to m^r Eliezer Lake for 180 feet of Plank
for the Reauer Brige Voted 2—10—0

18 The Town alowed to m^r Matthew Peabody for Bording
the Wid Cree Ten Weeks 2—10—0 Voted

19 The Town alowed to Capt Joseph Gould for fencing Stuff
and Laber about y^e Parsonage 0—15—0 Voted

20 The Town alowed to Mr Benja Rogers for house Room
for Children at School 0—5—0 Voted

21 The Town alowed to John Hood for Two Casements for
y^e Meeting House Voted 0—5—0

22 The Town alowed to Ephram Willdes for one Day work a
mending y^e Parsonage fence 0—3—0 Voted

23 The Town alowed to Samuel Phippen for finding House
room for the School 0—5—0

24 The Town alowed to Capt Wildes money Paid for a
Gleasuer mending y^e meeting House Glass 1—4—6 Voted

25 The Town allowed to Nathaniel Towne for Sweeping the Meeting House y^e year Past 1—0—0

The Several officers that were Chosen at the abous^d meeting were all Sworn before y^e Selectmen on y^e Sixth and ninth Days of y^e Said march by order of the Selectmen

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Essex ss To Simon Gould one of y^e Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting

You are hearby Required in his majestes Name forth with to warn all the freeholders and other Inhabatances in the South ward in Topsfield Qualified as the Law Directs for Voting To Convean together att the meeting house in Said Topsfield on Fryday the Thirtyeth Day of march Instant at Three of The Clock in the after noon

1 To Chuse a Committee to Supply Said Town with a School Master for the year Insuing

2 To Choose a Commitee to Repair the Parsonage fence for the year Ensuing

3 To See if the Town will Giue Liberty for the Swine to go at Large the year Ensuing as the Law Directs

4 To allow bills of Charge

and you are Required to make Return of this your warrant and Doings to one or more of the Selectmen at Times and aboue mentioned as you will answer the Contrary at the Perral of the Law Dated Topsfield March y^e 23rd 1749

John Willdes	}	Selectmen of Topsfield
Benja ^a Towne		
Mathew Peabody		
John Gould		
Elijah Porter		

This is a True Coppey of y^e warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

A proper Return Being made of worning ye Inhabatances meet as follows att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield March 30th 1750

1 Capt John Willdes is Chosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 The Town Made Charges of ye Selectmen to provide the Town with a School Master for the year Ensuing Voted

3 Mr Luke Aurvel Mr Ephram Willdes are Chosen a Com^{tte} To Repar the Parsonage fence for ye year Ensuing Voted

4 The Town agreed yt Swine Should go at Large the year Ensuing according as the Law Gives Liberty Voted

5 The Town allowed Twelve pounds Ten Shillings to mr Simon Gould for Erecting a New pound in Topsfield in the year 1747

The Freeholders and other Inhabatance of the Town of Topsfield that are qualified by Law for Voting are hearby Notified and warned to Convean and meet Together att ye Meeting house in Said Topsfield on Tuesday the fifteenth Day of This Instant May att Two of Clock after noon

1 To Choose a Repersentive according to Precept

2 To See what the Town will Do to Pervent the Rever waring away The Ground and Causeway on the Northly Side of the Rever Bridge

3 To alow Bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield May 1st 1750

Simon Gould

Constable of Topsfield

John Willdes

Benja Towne

Mathew peabody

John Gould

Elijah Porter

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

This is a True Copey of ye Notefication

attest Rich^d Towne Town Clk

Att a Legal Town Meeting In Topsfield may the 15th 1750 The Town Brought in Their Votes for a Representative Sundry Times and was so Devided in There Choise yt thay Choose none and There being other Busness to be Done

1 Cap John Willdes was Chosen modrator for sd meeting

Voted

2 Voted yt the Selectmen Shall order ye Survayors what to do In order to prevent the Revers wareing away the Ground and Causaway on the Northerly Side of the Rever Bridge

3 The Town allowed Ten Shillings Lawfull money to mr Mathew Peabody for Keeping ye widow Cree five weeks

0—10—0 Voted

Essex ss To Simon Gould one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield you are hearby Required in his Majesties Name fourthwith to worn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabatances yt are qualiefied by Law for Voting in said Topsfield to Conven together at the meeting house in said Topsfield on Tuesday the Eighteenth Day of September Next at one of ye Clock afternoon

1 To Chouse Jury men for to Serve at Newbary Court according to warrant

2 To See how much money the Town will Raise to Defray The Town Charges the year Insuing

3 To See what ye Town Will Do about Repairing ye meeting House

4 To See how much money ye Town Will Give ye Rev. Mr John Emerson for his Sallary this Present Year

5 To See if the Town will alow Simon Gould any more money for Bulding the Pound then thay have allredy Voted him

6 To alow bills of Charge

and you are to make Return of of this your Warrant With your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen at Time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield August 27 1750

John Willdes	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Benja Towne	
Matthew Peabody	
John Gould	
Elijah Porter	

A True Copy of the warrant

Attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

A proper Return of worning the Inhabatance ye meeting follows:

Att a Legal Town Meteing in Topsfield September ye 18th 1750 Mr John Bathalder Mr Thomas Gould was Drown out of the Box to Serve on ye Jury of Tryals at the Next Infeareer Court to be holden a Newbary

2 and Their being other Bisness to be Dun Lard^t Benja Towne is Chosen moderater for this meeting

3 The Town voted that the Selectmen Should a Tax of Eighty Eight Pounds Lawfull Money To Defray the Charges of The Town the year Ensuing

4 The Town agreed to Lay out ye other Province money That is in ye Treasurer hand To Repare ye meeting House

Voted

5 The Town Voted if ye Selectmen shall order to the Reveand Mr John Emerson fifty Three pounds ten Shillings and Eight Pence Lawfull money from march A D 1749/50 To March A D 1750/51

6 The Town allowed to ye widow Hannah Herrick Two Pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence Lawfull money for Taking Care of Sam^{ll} Tutoos Ten Weeks in his Last Sickness

Voted

Essex ss To Mr Simon Gould one of ye Constables of ye Town of Topsfield you are hearby Required in his majesties Name forethwith to Worn all ye freeholders and other Inhabatance of

Said Town that are qualified for Voting as the Law Derects to Convean and meet Together at ye meeting house In sd Topsfield on Tuesday ye Ninth Day of this Instant October att Two o'Clock afternoon

1 To Choose Jurymen according to warrant to Serve at the Next Sup^r Court att Salem

2 to See If ye Town will omitt Wharfing ye Rever of from The Causey on the North Side of ye Rever Bridge for the year by Reason of the Lateness) and in Case the Town Do not omitt it then to See wether the Town will wharfe The water of with Wood or Stones and to See If it shall be Done att ye Town Charge by Laying a Tax for it

3 To See if the Town will Choose one man or two to Lay out the Money yt was Voted to Repare the meeting house for Necessary Things to Repair the said house

4 to allow Bills of Charge

and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of ye Selectmen at Time and please above mentioned

Topsfield October ye 3rd 1750

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Matthew Peabody	
John Gould	
Elijah Porter	

A True Copy of the warrant

Attest Rich^d Towne Town Clerk

a proper Return being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town The meeting followers

Att a Legal Town meeting In Topsfield october ye 9th 1750

1 Cap Joseph Gould is Chosen Modrater for this meeting

2 Decn Daniel Gould is Chosen Grand Jury to Serve att ye Next Sup^r Court to be holden att Salem Voted

3 Mr David Balch is Drawn out of the Box to Serve a Jury man att the Next Sup^r Court to be holden att Salem

4 The Town Voted to omitt ye whorfing the Rever for this present year by reasing of the Latness of the Season Voted

5 The Town agreed to omitt the Chosen of a man or men to Lay out the other province money yt is in the Treas^{rs} hand for the present Voted

6 The Town alowed to ye Selectmen Ten Shillings and Eight Pence for ye Diging of a Grave and Coffen for Samuel Tutoos
£0 10 8

Essex ss To mr Simon Gould one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting you are Required In his majestes

name forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhaba-
tance That are qualiefied by Law for Voting in the South ward
In Said Topsfield to Conven and meet Together att the meeting
house in Said Topsfield on Thiersday the Thirty first Day of
January Instant att Two O Clock afternoon

1 ly To See if ye Town will Give the Selectmen Liberty to
Draw money out of the Town Treasurer to pay ye County Tax
It being Three Pounds Eighteen Shillings and Two Pence
Lawfull money

2 ly To See If the Town Will Chuse a Commitee To New
Seat The People in the Meeting house and to Give Them
Instricctions

3 ly to alow Bills of Charge
hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your
Doings to one or more of the Selectmen at Time and place
above mentioned

Topsfield January ye 23rd 1750

Matthew Peabody	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Gould	
Elijah Porter	

A Proper Retorn being made of Worning ye Inhabantes thay
meet as follows

att a Legal Town Meeting In Topsfield January ye 31st 1750/1

1 ly Luv^t Benjamin Towne is Chosen Modrator for this
meeting Voted

2 ly The Town Voted that the Selectmen shall Draw money
out of the Town Treasurer So much as the County Warrant
is to pay This Present County Tax £3 18 2 Voted

3 ly Mr Jacob Robinson Mr Jacob Auiel Mr Nath^{el} porter
Mr Dan Clarke and Mr Samuel Smith are Chosen a Committe
To Seat the People in the meeting hous Voted

4 ly The Town alowed to Decⁿ Daniel Gould for mr David
Balch one Shilling and Six pence for 12 foot of plank 0 1 6 Voted

5 ly The Town alowed to Israel Clarke former Constable
one Shilling and four Pence It being an abatment of sum part
of Nath^l Willdes Rate 0 1 4

6 ly The Town alowed to Ephram Willdes for one Day and
a half Work about the Parsonage fence 0 5 0 Voted

7 ly The Town alowed to Samuel Taplle for keeping the
Widow Cree 0 6 2 Voted

8 ly The Town alowed to ye Selectmen Twelve pounds Sixteen
Shillings It Being for the School master for Six months School-
ing £12 16 0

Boston 6 Feby 1750 Rec^d of Mr Jere. Towne Cont. of Topsfield Eighty pounds Eleven Shillings and Eleven pence in full for 1749 for my Husband Wm Foye Treasurer Eliz^a Foye
A True Coppey of ye Records

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Essex ss To Sam^l Smith one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting

You are hearby Required in his Majestes Name fourthwith To Worn all the Inhabatance and other freeholders that are Qualified by Law for Voting in the North Ward in said Topsfield to Conven together att the meeting house in said Topsfield on Tuesday the fifth Day of March Next Ensuing the Date hereof at Nine O Clock in the fore Noon

1 ly To Chouse a Town Clerk Constables Selectmen and Other Town Officers as the Law Directs

2 ly To Chuse Jury men to Serve at Ipswich Cort according to Warrant

3 ly for the Town to Bring in their Votes for the Choise of a County Register and County Treasurer

4 ly To See What the Town will Do With the out Province Bills that is in the Town Treasury

5 ly to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this Warrant With your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town at Time and place above mentioned

Topsfield Febr. 14th 1750

Benja ^a Towne	}	Selectmen of Topsfield
Matthew Peabody		
John Gould		
Elijah Porter		

This is a True Copy of ye Warrant as

Attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

A Proper Return being made of worning the Inhabatance the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March ye 5th 1750/1

1 Leut Benja^a Towne is Chosen Modreater for this meeting
Voted

2 Voted yt the Meeting Should be ajornd to ye 12th Day of March Currant at Nine O Clock in the fore Noon and accordingly it was adjorned

Attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

At a Legal Town Meeting In Topsfield Held by an adjornmint To the 12 Day of March 1750/1

- 1 Richard Towne is Chosen Town Clerk for ye year Ensuing
Voted
- 2 Messrss William Rogers Jacob Robinson are Chosen Constables for the year Ensuing
Voted
- 3 Mr Elijah Porter Leut Benja Towne Mr John Gould Mr Sam^l Smith Mr Mathew Peabody are Chosen Selectmen for ye year Ensuing
Voted
- 4 Leut Benja Towne is Chosen Town Treasurer ye year Insuing
Voted
- 5 Mr Jeremiah Aurvel Mr Stephen Forster mr William Perkins are Chosen Tything men for the year Insuing
Voted
- 6 Mr Joseph Edwards is Chosen Sealer of Lather for the year Ensuing
Voted
- 7 Mr Thomas Symonds Mr Thomas Dwinel are Chosen Surveyers of Highways for the year Insuing
Voted
- 8 Mr David Balch Mr Jacob Dwinell Mr Dan Clarke are Chosen fence veuers for The year Ensuing
Voted
- 9 Capt Thomas Baker Mr Stephen Towne are Chosen Hog-reaves for the year Ensuing
Voted
- 10 Mr Jacob Auirrel is Chosen Grand Jury for the year Ensuing
Voted
- 11 Mr Matthew Peabody Mr Dan Clarke are Drawn out of ye Box To Serve as Jurymen at the next Infear Cort to be Holden at Ipswich
Voted
- 12 Deacon George Bixby is Chosen to Lay out the other province money that is in his hands for to git nessary Stuf for the meeting house
Voted
- 13 The Town alowed to Mr Dan Clarke 2 Shillings it being an abatment of Samuel Porter Jur Rate
Voted
- 14 The Town alowed to Mr John Davis former Const 13s and one peny it Being an abatment of David Pritchard head
Voted
- 15 The Town alowed to Jeremiah Towne former Constable
Voted
- 0 13 1 It being an abatment of Sam^l Master Reat
Voted
- 16 The Town alowed to Doct Dexter Three Shillings 0 3 0 for Doctren Sam^l Tutoo in his Last Sickness
Voted
- 17 The Town alowed to Jeremiah Towne Seiven pence hap-peny 0 7 1/2 It being an abatment of Daniel Robinson Rate
Voted
- 18 The Town alowed to Mr Simon Gould Thirteen Shillins & 4d more for the Pound
Voted 13 4
- 19 The Town alowed to Mr Luke auirrel for Timber to mend the Town Bridge nine Shillings and four pence
Voted 0 9 4
- 20 To 179 foot of Two inch and quarter Plank
Voted 0 18 8

21 and To 75 foot of Two inch Plank Voted 0 5 0
 22 The Town allowed to Sam^l Phippen Seven pence hap-
 peny 0 0 7 1/2 it being an abatment of a Cows head not with
 age Voted

23 The Town allowed to Mr Luke Avirrel for work Don at
 the Personage 1750 one Day and an half at 2s per Day 0 3 0
 To his Tame one Day one Shilling and four pence 0 1 4

To Sixteen Posts Five Shillings and Eight pence 0 5 8 Voted

24 The Town allowed to Mr Luke Auivrel for Timber to mend
 Milebrook Bridge in the year 1750 five Shi^l and Six pence

5 6 Voted

25 The Town allowed to Nathe^l Towne Sixteen Shillings
 0 16 0 for Sweeping the meeting House in the year 1750

The Several officers Chosen att ye above said meeting ware
 all Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their Respective offices
 Before ye Selectmen and Town Clerk as the Law Directs Except-
 ing Massrs David Balch Stephen forster William Perkins Jere-
 miah Auirel Thomas Dwinell Jacob Dwinell and Dan Clarke
 David Balch Dan Clark and Thomas Dwinell have Taken thier
 Respective oaths

Rec^d of Mr Benja^a Towne Three Pounds Eighteen Shillings
 and 2^d in full for ye Town of Topsfield County Tax for ye year
 1750

March 18 1750

Dan^l Appleton County Treasurer

This is a True Copy Attest Richard Towne Towne Clerk

Boston Jan^y ye 29 1750 Rec^d of Mr John Daves Constⁿ of Tops-
 field Seventy Three Pounds Ten Shillings & one penney Last
 Emission in full for 1749 for my Husband Wm Foye Treaserer

Eliz^a Foye

This is a True Copey of ye Province Treasurer Receipt

Attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Topsfield May ye 15 Day 1751

We the Subscribers Being appointed by ye Towne of Topsfield
 and Boxford to Prambelate and Renew ye Bounds Between
 Each Town according to the Records of Each Town and Have
 Prembelated and Renewed the Bounds according as the Law
 Directs.

Joseph Hale Jr
 John Gould
 Simon Gould
 Aaron R—

This is a True Record of the Prambelations Between Topsfield and Boxford

Attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

We the Subscribers Being appointed and Impowered by the Selectmen of Wenham and Topsfield to prambulate and renew ye Bounds Between our Said Towns as followeth begining att a White oak Stump near Theophilus fisk Barn it Being Salem Northerly Corner bound thence Easterly to a Stake and heap of Stones on ye West Side of the Road Leading from Wenham Causaway to Bunkers medow by the Stone wall from Thence to a Plump of Mapels So Called but now a Stump Thence as the Brook Runs to a Stake and heap of Stones at the Going Over the Brook from thence to ye Southersterly Corner of Pidgens medow (so Called) and So to the River all Which is according to the Setteltment in the year 1740 and In Confirmation of above Written We have hearunto Set our Hands this 29th Day of April 1751

Matthew Peabody

Jacob Dwinell

Richard Towne

A True Copy

Thomas Tarbox

Theophilus ffisk

John Gott

Attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

We the Subscribers being appointed to Preambulate and Renew the Bounds Between Salem and Topsfield accordingly Met on the Thirteenth Day of May 1751 Renew the bounds Begining at a Stump With a heap of Stones Round It near Weanham Causway and from thence to a Black or Red Stump With a Heap of Stones Round It Standing in Sam^{ll} Gott orchard and from thence to a heap of Stones near Thomas Dwinells Corner of his Paster and from thence to a heap of Stones Near To Neckolls Brook and So on the Same Corse to the Said Brook

Benja^a Towne

Elisha Towne

Elijah Porter

Stephen Putnam

Eleajer Porter

David Putman

Henry Putnam

Eleazer Porter

George Gould

A true Copy

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Essex ss To Jacob Robinson one of ye Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting Yea are hearby Required in his Majestes Name forthwith to worn all ye free holders and other Inhabatance y^t are Qualified by Law for Voting in ye South Ward in

Said Topsfield to Conven Together att ye meeting house In said Topsfield on Tuesday the fourteenth of May Next Ensuing att Two O Clock afternoon

1 To Chouse a Repesentive to Serve att ye Greate and General Court according to Preceypt

2 To Chouse a Com^{tee} To Supply ye Town With a Schol Master for the year Ensuing

3 To See if the Town Chouse a Com^{tee} to Repare ye Meeting House

4 To See if the Town will Sell or Seal the Pue yt Stands at the Reight hand of the front Door in the meeting house

5 to See if the Town will Let Swine go att Large as the Law Directs

6 To allow Bills of Charge

hearof fail not and mak Return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of ye Selectmen of Said Town at time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield April 25th 1751

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Matthew Peabody	
John Gould	
Sam ^{ll} Smith	
Elijah Porter	

A True Copy of ye Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

A proper Return being made the Meeting followers

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield May ye 14th 1751

1 The Town made Choise of Mr David Balch to Represent the Town att the Great and General Court to be holden att Boston the year Ensuing.

and their being other Bissness to be Done

Deacon George Bixby is Chosen modrater for this Present Meeting Voted

3 Mr Luke Avrill Mr Elisha Wildes Mr Israel Avril are Chosen a Commitee to provide the Town with a School for the year Ensuing Voted

4 Voted that the Selectmen Should Be a Commitee to Repare the Meeting house this Present year

5 The Town agreed To Sell ye Pue yt Stands at the Reight hand of the front Door in the meeting house Voted

6 the Town agreed yt Swine Should go att Large the year Insuing Providing thay are as the Law Directs Voted

We the Subscribers being appointed to pramblate and Renew the bounds between Topsfield and Middleton accordingly met on the thirteenth Day of may 1751 renewed the bounds beginning at a heap of Stones in the Brook near the Saw Mill which is a bound Between Salem and Topsfield from thence as the Brook runs to a small Elmn tree att the Northeasterly branch of ye sd Brook Thence as the Said Northesterly branch Runs to a heap of Stones by the River

Benja Towne
Elisha Towne
Elijah Porter

Zorababel Peabody
Jonathan Knights
Isaac Kenney

A True Copy

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Essex ss To Jacob Robinson one of ye Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting

You are hearby required in his majesties name forthwith to worn all ye freeholders and other Inhabatance yt are Qualified by Law for Voting in the South Ward in Said Town to Conven together att the meeting house in said town on Tuesday the Ninth Day of July Next att Three of ye Clock In the afternoon

1 To See if the Town will whorfe the River of from the Causey on the North Side of ye Rever Bridge this present year and to See if the Town will whorfe said River with Stone or wood or to agree upon any thing else what soever that will by any way or means prevent the River waring away the said River and Bridge and to See if the Town Will Defray the Charges of Whorfing Said River by Laying a Tax for it or to agree Upon any other proper meuthard to Perform Said Bisness

2 To See if the Town will new Cover the meeting House or any Part of it this Present year and to Chuse a Comtee to new Cover Said meeting house or any part of it that the Town shall agree to new Cover

3 To Choose a man or two to Serve with the School Comtee this Present year in the Room of any of Said Committee yt Refuse to Serve

4 To See If the Town will Reconsider the Vote that was passed att the Last Town meeting for to Sell the Pue that Stands att the right hand of the front Door in the meeting house and to See if the Town will agree to have so many persons seated in itt as will be Covenant to Set in it

5 To alow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town att Time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield June 17th 1751

Jacob Robinson Constable	Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
	Mathew Peabody	
	John Gould	
	Elijah porter	
	Sam ^l Smith	

A True Copy of the warrant

Attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns being made on both warrants the meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield on ye ninth Day of July A D 1751

1 Cap^t Benja Towne is Chosen Moderator for Said Meeting

2 Elijah Porter is Chosen Clerk for said meeting and was Sworn

3 Voted that the River Shall be Whorfed with wood or Stone or both as the Surveyors of the heigh ways of said town Shall think most Expedient and that the Said Survayers Shall worn and Imply all the men in Said Town and Teams to work and Whorfe said River—in the Same Manner and form as has been the usuall practice of working at the Heighways in Said Town

4 The Town agreed to Repair the Easterly Gutters on the Roof of the Meeting House Voted

5 Messirs Nathan Wood and Robert Smith is Chosen a Com^{tee} to repair Said Parts of Said Meeting House Voted

6 Mr Elisha Towne is Chousen to Serve with the School Com^{tee} this Present Year in the Room of Elisha Wilds Voted

7 Voted That the Town Reconsider the Vote that was passed att the Last Town Meeting for to Sell the Pue that Stands att the Right hand of the meeting house frunt Door

the above is the whole of what was acted at Said Meeting
pr Elijah Porter Clerk for sd Meeting

A True Copy attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Essex ss To Jacob Robinson one of the Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting You are Required in his majesties name fourthwith to Worn all the Freeholders and other Inhabatance that are Qualified by Law for Voting In the South Ward in Said Topsfield to Conven and meet together att ye Meeting House in Said Topsfield on Tuesday the Seventeenth Day of September Instant att Two of the Clock in the afternoon

1 to Chouse Jurymen to Serve at Newbury Court as the Law Directs

2 Whereas the Town Voted the Rev^d Mr Emerson one Hundred Pounds in Bills of Publick Credit or one hundred Pounds of Such Other money as Should Be Passing for his Salary annually when he Settled in Said Town and whereas The money is now Stated to See if the Town will alow the Said Mr Emerson One Hundred Pounds money (and if not) then to See if ye Town Comes to a new Settlement with ye sd Mr Emerson Respecting Said Salary

3 to See how much money the Town will Raise to Defray the Town Charges the year Ensuing

4 To alow bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Topsfield at Time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield Sept 3th 1751

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Gould	
Elijah porter	

A True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

a proper return Being made on Both warrants the meeting followed

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield September ye 17th 1751

1 Capt Benja Towne Is Chosen Modrater for this Meeting
Voted

2 Mr Thomas Perkins Mr Elijah Porter are Drawn out of the Box to Serve as Jurymen att ye Next Infeurer Court to be holden att Newbury and then the Town Voted yt ye meeting Should be adjurned and Accordingly ye moderater adjurned sd meeting to the first Tuesday of October next Ensuing at one of ye Clock afternoon

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield held by adjurnment from the 17th of Sept to the first Day of October and Being Met

3 The Town agreed if the Selectmen Should Lay a Tax of one Hundred and Ten Pounds Lawfull Money upon ye Inhabatance of the Town to Defray the Charges the year Ensuing Voted

4 Capt Tobijah perkins is Chosen Grand Jury man to Serve at ye next Supearer Court To be holden att Salem Voted

5 Capt Joseph Gould is Drawn out of ye Box to Serve a Jury-man att the Next Superer Court to Be holden at Salem

6 the Town allowed to Mr Thomas Gould and Mr John Gould fifteen Shilling and Ten Pence for fencing Stuf and Laber about the personage
Voted £0 15 10

Essex ss To William Rogers one of ye Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting You are heaby required In his majesties Name forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatance that are Qualified by Law for Voting In the North ward in said Town to Conven Together att ye meeting House in Said Town On Monday ye Twenty fifth of November Instant att one of ye Clock in the afternoon

1 To Chouse a Commitie To Treat with the Revrd Mr Emerson in order to Know upon what Terms he will Establish a Settled agreement with ye Town respecting his Salery and when they have so Don to Lay Before ye Town as Soon as may be what his Terms of agreement are for the Town Exceptance If thay See Cause and in Case no agreement Can be Made By this meathed then to See how much money the Selectmen Shall order The Town Treasurer to Pay ye sd Revrd Mr Emerson for his Salary from the Second of march 1750 to the Second Day of March 1751

2 To See if the Town will repare any part of the meeting house before the Spring of the year and to Chouse a Committee to Repare Such Parts of said meeting house as ye Town Shall agree to Have Repared

3 To alow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town att Time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield November 13th 1751

Benjamon Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Mathew peabody	
Elijah Porter	
Samuel Smith	

A True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

proper returns being made on Borth worrants the meeting follows

At a Legal Town Meeting In Topsfield November ye 25th 1751

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen modreater for this meeting
Voted

2 Voted that the Selectmen Shall order the Town Treasurer to Pay to the Revrd Mr Emerson fifty Three Pounds Six Shillings and Eight pence Lawfull money in full for his salary from March ye 2nd 1750 to march the 2nd 1751 Provided Mr Emerson Gives a Receipt in full for said year

The Town allowed to Mr Israel Aurvel and others School Comtee Six Pounds Lawfull money for to Pay the School Master for Three Months Schooling the Summer Past £6 0 0

Wee the Subscribers a Comtee Appointed By the Selectmen of Topsfield and Ipswich To Pramblelate the Line Between the Towns have perambulated Said Line and Renewed the Bounds Between Topsfield and Ipswich as formerly

Dated Topsfield Decr 17th 1751

Samuel Rogers	} Comtee for Ipswich	Benja Towne	} Comtee for Topsfield
Aaron Potter		Luke Auvrel	
John Smith		Sam ^l Smith	

This is a True Copy attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

The Freeholders and other Inhabatance of the Town of Topsfield that are Qualified by Law for Voting are hearby notefied and worned to Conven and meet Together att the meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the Third Day of March next Ensuing the Date hearof at nine of the Clock in the forenoon

1 To Choose Selectmen and a Town Clerk and all Other Town Officers as the Law Directs for the year Ensuing

2 To Choose Jury men as the Law Directs

3 to Except of the Selectmens Reckining with the Town Treasurer

4 To allow Bills of Charges

Topsfield Febr 21st 1752

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Elijah Porter	
Matthew Peabody	
John Gould	
Sam ^l Smith	

A True Copy of ye notification

attest Rich^d Towne Town Clerk

A Return being made of worning the said meeting follows
Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March ye 3rd 1752

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen Modrater for this meeting

Voted

2 Mr Jacob Avirel Capt Benja Towne Clerk Sam^l Smith Mr Elijah Porter and Qurt Dan Clarke are Chosen Selectmen for the year Insuing

Voted

3 Richard Towne is Chosen Town Clerk for the year Ensuing

Voted

4 Mr John Balch is Chosen Constable for the year Ensuing
Voted and Stephen Perkins is Chosen Constable to Serve in the Rum and Stead of his father John Perkins

Voted

5 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen Town Treasurer for the year
Insuing Voted

6 Jacob Dwinell Elisha Towne John Bradstreet Stephen ffoster
Thos Perkins are Chosen Surveyers of highways for the year
Ensuing Voted

7 David Balch Jr John Bordman and David Towne are Chosen
Tything men for the year Ensuing Voted

8 Joshua Towne Junr is Chosen Sealer of Lather ye year En-
suing Voted

9 Ephraim Willdes Aaron Estey and Thomas Symonds is
Chosen fence veurs for the year Ensuing Voted

10 Michael Dwinell Junr and Joseph Hovey is Chosen Hog-
reaves for the year Ensuing Voted

11 Leut Luke Auvrel is Chosen to Serve on the Grand Jury
for the year Ensuing Voted

12 Jeremiah Towne and Thos Symonds are appointed to Serve
on the Jury of Tryalls att the Inferer Court to be holden att
Ipswich

13 The Town allowed to mr John Davies former Constable
what John Redington was Rated in said Davies List when he
was Constable Voted

14 the Town allowed to Israel Clarke former Constable John
Redington Rates for the year A D 1747 A D 1748 Voted

15 The Town allowed to Jeremiah Towne one shilling and
Eleven pence it being an abatment of Samll porters Reats

Voted 0 1 11

16 The Town allowed to Samll Smith former Constable five
Shillings and Three pence it being an abatment of Nathl Hood
Reat Voted 0 5 3

17 the Town allowed to the School Commitee that is Luke
Auvrel and others nine pounds 9 0 0

18 The Town allowed to Sundry Parsons for Bording the School
Master Six Pounds four Shillings 6 4 0

and to Nathl Towne for Sweeping the meeting house Sixteen
Shillings 0 16 0

The persons above said to which an Oath Belonged was
Sworn to the Faithfull Discharge of their Offices on the third Day
of march A D 1752 Excepting Capt Towne John Bordman Aaron
Easty and Michael Dwinell

May ye 16: 1752 Capt Benja Towne Toke the Oath of a
Town Treasurer Michael Dwinell Junr Was Sworn to the Office
of a hog Reaver on the third Day of March 1752 as Jacob Auvrel
Dan Clarke and Elijah porter the present Selectmen Entred by
order Richard Towne Town Clerk

Essex ss To Stephen Perkins one of the Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting You are required in his Majesties name forthwith to Worn ye freeholders and Other Inhabantes that are qualified by Law for Voting in the North ward in Said Town to Conven Together att the Meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the Twenty fourth of March Instant att Two of the Clock in the after noon

1 To Choose a Comtee to Supply the Town with a School Master for the year Insuing

2 to Choose a Comtee to repare the Personage fence the year Ensuing

3 to Choose a Comtee to Treat with the revnd Mr Emerson in order to Know Upon What Termes he will Discharge the Town for his Sallary for the two years Past and also from year To year Dureing ye time of his ministry amongst us and when thay have So Don to Lay before the Town What his Terms of Settlement is to See if the Town will Except of them

4 to See if the Town Will Lett Swine go att Large as ye Law Directs the year Ensuing

5 for the Town to Bring in their votes for a County Treasurer
6 To alow Bills of Charge

hearof fail not and make return of this warrant With your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield March ye 10th 1752

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Avirel	
Dan Clarke	
Elijah porter	
Sam ^{ll} Smith	

A True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

A Proper Return being made on Both Worrants of Worning the Inhabatance of the Town the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March the 24th 1752

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen Mordrator for this meeting

Voted

2 Voted that the Selectmen are Chosen a Comtee to Supply the Town With a School Master the year Ensuing

3 Capt Thomas Baker Mr Simon Gould and Mr John Bordman are Chosen a Comtee to Reparer the Personage fence the year Insuing

Voted

4 Mr David Balch Leut Joseph Dorman and Mr Nath^{ll} Porter

are Chosen a Comtee to Treat With the Revnd Mr Emerson and to Know upon what Terms he will Settel his Sallary Voted

5 Voted that Swine Should go at Large the Year Ensuing Providing thay are yoaked and ringed as the Law Directs

Essex ss To Stephen Perkins one of ye Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name You are required to Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of Said Town that are quallified by Law for voting to Conven and meet Together att the meeting House in Said Town on Wendesday the thirteenth Day of May next Insuing att Two of the Clock afternoon

1 To See if the Town Will Except of the Comtee Return that Was Chosen to Treat with ye revnd Mr Emerson Respecting his Salary

2 To Choose a Repersentive according to Presecept

3 To See if ye Town Will Repare ye Meeting House and in Case the Town agrees to repara sd House then to See if the Town Will Sell all the room round the Inside of the Said House that is Conveanant to have Pues bult in to Such of the Inhabatats of Said Town as will Bid most for Said room and in Case ye town agrees to have said house repared and the said room Sould as above said then to see if ye Town will Choose a Comtee to repair said House and to Lay out said room and sell it as afor sd

4 To See if the Selectmen shall Draw money out of ye Town Treasurer to pay the County Taxes Which ye Town is required to pay by the Last Day of July Next it being five pounds Twelve Shillings and nine pence

5 To See if the Town Will make a new regulation of mens Names in ye Boxes for Jurymen as the Law Directs

6 To allow Bills of Charge

Topsfield April 28 1752

Jacob Auvrel	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Dan Clark	
Elijah porter	
Sam ^{ll} Smith	

hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

A True Copy of the Warrant

attest Rich^d Towne Town Clerk

a proper Return being made of worning the inhabatance the meeting follows

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield may ye 13th 1752

1 Elijah Porter Was Chosen Clark for said meeting and Sworn

2 Capt Benja Towne was Chosen morderator for this said meeting

3 The Town voted that the Selectmen shall Draw money out of Town Treasury to Pay the County Tax it being five pounds Twelve Shillings and nine pence

The Names of the Serveaarl persons which the Town voted to Serve att the Seupearer Court Capt Tobijah perkins Capt Benja Towne Miss^{rs} George Bixby Daniel Gould David Balch Richard Towne Capt Thos Baker Leut Joseph Dormon Leut Thos Gould Cor David Commings Ens Nathll Auvrell Qur Dan Clarke Miss^{rs} John Bathalder Elijah porter

The Names of ye Several persons which ye Town Voted to serve at ye Infearer Court

Leut Luke Auvrel	Nathan Hood	Israel Auvrell
Joseph Peabody	Elisha Towne	Joshua Towne Jun ^r
Jacob Robinson	Thos Perkins	Thos perkins Jun ^r
John Gould	John Perkins	Stephen Perkins
Simon Gould	Thos Symonds	David Perkins
Jacob Avirell	Samll Smith	Robert Perkins
Samll Towne	Thos Dwinell	John Bradstreet
John Davies	Jacob Dwinell	Jeremiah Auvrell
Aaron Eastey	David Towne	Elisha Cummings
Jeremiah Towne	Dan ^l Byxby	Aurther Brown
Matthew Peabody	Benja Byxby	John Willdes
Nathll Porter Jr	David Balch Jr	Elisha Willdes
Jacob Perkins Jun ^r	John Balch	Aaron Hovey
Stephen Foster	William Rogers	Jabes Towne
Zacchuas Gould	Elieser Gould	

Elijah Porter Cler for said meeting

Essex ss To John Balch one of ye Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting In his majesties name you are required fourthwith to Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatance that are Qualified by Law for voting in the South ward in said Town to Conveen together att the meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the Second Day of June Next Insuing the Date hearof at Two of ye Clock afternoon

1 to See What answer the Town Will Return to the Rev^d Mr Emerson Concerning the Proposals he sent to the Town by the Commtee that Was Chosen to Treet With him Respecting his Sallary

2 To See if the Town Will Repair the meeting house

3 To Choues a Commitee to Repair Said house and to give them Instructions how thay Shall Repair Said house

4 To See if the Town will Sell all the Room round the Inside of the meeting house yt is Conveanient to have pues Bult on to Such of the Inhabatances of Said Town as Will Give most for Said Room

5 to Choues a Com^{tee} to Lay out all the Said Room that is Convenient to have Pues Boulton and to Sell it as afforesaid

6 To See What Meathod the Town will Come into in order to preserve the River Bridge and Causaway from the Distruction of the Water

7 To allow Bills of Charge

hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant With your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town at time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield May 26th 1752

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Avirel	
Dan Clarke	
Samll Smith	
Elijah porter	

a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

proper returns being made of Worning the Inhabatance of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting In Topsfield June 2nd 1752

1 Capt Thos Baker is Chosen modrater for this meeting

Voted

2 It was Put to vote to See if the Town Will allow the Rev^d Mr Emerson any more money for the Two years Last past and it past in the Negative

3 The Town Voted to Repair the meeting house

4 Decn George Bixby Capt Tobijah Perkins Decn Daniel Gould Mr Nath^l Porter and Mr John Bordman are Chosen a Com^{tee} To Repair the meeting house

Voted yt the meeting should be adjurned and then the sd modrator adjurn^d said meeting to the ninth Day of June Instant att Two of ye Clock in the after noon

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield held by adjurnment from the Second Day of June to the ninth of the Same Mounth & then met

5 The Town voted the Instructions Given to the Com^{tee} above

said is to mend the Glass and to stop the Leaks in the Roof of the meeting house

6 It was put to vote to see if the Town will Sell the Room in the Inside of the meeting house Conveanent for puse and it past in the Negative

7 Voted that ye present Survoyers shall Do their Indeвер to pervent the Water Waring away the Bridge and Causey

Essex ss To Stephen Perkins one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties name you are required forethwith to Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatance of said Town that are qualified by Law for voting to Convean together att the meeting house in said Town one Tuesday the nineteenth Day of Sept next at one of the Clock afternoon

1 To Choose Juoryes for Newbury Court

2 in as much as ye Town applied to the Rev^d Mr Emerson to Know upon What Terms he Would make a Settlement respecting his Salary and Whareas ye sd Rev^d Mr Emerson made proposals to the Town Respecting his Salary to See What answer ye Town Will make to ye sd proposalls and In Case the Town Do not make a Direct answer to sd proposasals then to see if ye Town will Chooose a Com^{tee} too advise the Town What answer to make to ye said porposalls

3 to See how much money the Town Will Raise to Defray ye Town Charges the year Ensuing

4 To See how much money the Town will Rais to Repare the meeting house

5 To See if the Town will Repair ye meeting house by new Covering the roof in the Same Shape it is in now or weather thay will Cut of the Lucombs and make the Roof four Squar or Weather thay will raise a principal at Each Corner so as to make ye north and South Roofs the Whole Length of sd house and so high as the platform to Each end of sd house and to see if the Town will new Clabbord all ye Sides of said house and make new Winders or to repair any part of the Sides and winders as the Town shall agree to have Repared

6 to Choose a Com^{tee} to Repare Said house as ye Town shall agree to have Repared

7 to allow Bills of Charge

hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings Therein to one or more of the Select men of sd Town at time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield August 31st 1752

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averell	
Dan Clarke	
Sam ^l Smith	
Elijah porter	

A True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

a proper Return being made of Worning the Inhabatance of this Town the meeting followeth

att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield Sept ye 19th 1752

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chooosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 Mr Jacob Perkins and Mr Joshua Towne Jun^r are Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of tryalls att the next Infearer Couart to Be holden at Newbury

3 Deacon George Bixby Mr Elijah Porter Capt Thos Baker Capt Iovery Hovey Capt Joseph Gould and Mr David Balch are Chosen a Com^{tee} to Draw up an answer to the proposalls of the Rev^d Mr Emersons porposalls and Lay it before the Town at the next Town meeting for their Exceptance

Voted

and then the meeting was adjurned to the first Tuesday of October next Insuing at one of the Clock in the afternoon

att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield held An adjurnment from the nineteenth Day of September to the third Day of October and then met

1 The Town agreed yt ye Selectmen shall Lay a Tax upon the Inhabatance of the Town of one hundred pounds Lawfull money To Defray the Charges of the Town the year Ensuing

Voted

2 the Town voted to Rais money to Repare the meeting house

3 Mr Thos Symonds Mr David Balch Jun^r are Chosen to Joyn with Mr John Bordman one of a former Com^{tee} to Repair the meeting house

Voted

4 the Town alowed to the Selectmen for the School Master Two pounds Two Shillings and Eight pence

Voted

5 the Town alowed to Jeremiah Averel Ten Shillings and Two pence Lawfull money it being an abatment of Moses Perkins head money

£0 10s 2p

Essex ss To John Balch one of ye Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting in his Majesties name you are hearby required forth With to Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatance in the South ward of said Town that are Qualified by

Law for Voting to Convean together at the meeting house in said Town on Fryday ye theiirteenth Day of October Instant att Two of ye Clock afternoon

1 to Choose Jurymen to Serve at the next Sup^r Court to be Holden at Salem as the Law Directs

2 To Choouse a Com^{tee} to Informe the Rev^d Mr Emerson what Sum of money the Town Voted at the Last Town Meeting in answer to the proposals he made to the Town Respecting his Salary and also to return answer to the Town from the Rev^d Mr Emerson Whether he will Excipt of Said Sum as it was voted and In case ye Rev^d Mr Emerson Will not Except of ye Sum as it was Voted, then to See if the Town will Confirm the matter by Voting that the Rev^d Mr Emerson shall have the Sum of money being Sixty Six pounds thirteen Shillings and four pence on the Same Conditions as is mentioned in said vote: or to See What ye Town will Do Respecting the Rev^d Mr Emerson Salary

3 to allow Bills of Charge

hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield Oct^r 9th 1752

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Sam ^{ll} Snith	
Elijah porter	
Dan Clarke	

A True Copy of the Warrant:

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

A proper Return being made of Worning the Inhabatants of ye Town of Topsfield the Meeting followed

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield Oct^r ye 13th 1752

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 Mr Aaron Eastey is Chosen to Serve on the Grand jury at the next Sup^r Couert to be holden at Salem

Voted

3 Deacon George Bixby and Ensine Nath^{ll} Averel are Drawn out of the Box to serve on the Jury of Tryalls at the next Sup^rearer Court to be holden at Salem

4 The Town allowed to Jacob Dwinell fifteen Shillings for one Hundred forty and four foot of White oak plank which he had of Leut Luke Averel

£0 15s 0d

Essex ss To John Balch one of the Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting In his majesties Name you are required

heerby required forthwith to Worn all ye freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Quallified for voting by Law in the South Ward in Said Town to Convean together at the Meeting House in Said Town on Thursday the ninth Day of November Instant att Two of ye Clock after noon

Whereas ye Rev^d Mr Emerson has made Applacation to us to Grant Orders to the Town Treasurer to pay to him ye Sum of fifty pounds of money in part of his Salary according to Contract and the matter being unsetteled it also being Disputable what the True Sum Desined in said Contract is and as their has Been propossells made for a Setteltment and we having no Direct orders from the Town What Sum of money to order ye said Town Treasurer to Pay the said Rev^d Mr Emerson for his annueall Sallary we therefore Lay Before the Town ye following articles

1 To See if the Town will Give ye Rev^d Mr Emerson the Sum of Sixty Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence for his annuall Sallary according to the advise of Capt Joseph Gould Deacon George Bixby and others a Com^{tee} appointed on purpose to advise ye Town in said affare and in Case ye Town shall not agree to Give ye Rev^d Mr Emerson ye Sum aforesaid then

2 To See if the Town will Leve the matter in Controvacrsy respecting the said rev^d Mr Emerson Sallary to the Determination of a Com^{tee} of our own Cloth mutually Chosen by the said Rev^d Mr Emerson and the Town and in Case ye Town Shall not agree to Choose a Com^{tee} as aforesaid then

3 To Choose said Com^{tee} finally to Settelt ye matter Between the Rev^d Mr Emerson and the town Respecting his said Sallary & in Case ye Town shall not Agree to any of the above artucles then

4 for the Town to propose Sum proper meathard in order to accomadate a Just Setteltment Between ye revd Mr Emerson and the Town respecting his Sallary

Hearof fail Not and make Return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen att Time and Place above Mentioned

Topsfield November 8th 1752

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averell	
Sam ^l Smith	

A True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns being made of Worning the Inhabatance of Town of Topsfield on both warrants the meeting followth

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield November ye 9th 1752

1 Capt Benja Town is Chosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 it was put to Vote to See If the Town Will Give the rev^d Mr Emerson Sixty Six pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence and it past in the Negative

3 and then it was Put to vote to See if thay would Chouse a Com^{tee} according to warrant and it past in the Negative

and then the modrator adjurn^d said meeting to munday the thirteenth Day of November Instant at one of ye Clock afternoon

att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield held by adjurnment from the ninth Day of Nov^m Instant to the Thirteenth of the same Mounth and then met

the forth artiule pased in the Negative

Essex ss Stephen Perkins one of the Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties name you are hearby required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatance in the North ward in said Town that are qualiefied by Law for voting to Conven and meet Together att the Meeting House in said Town on Tuesday The fifth Day of December Next att Ten of the Clock in ye fournoon

1 To See if the Town Will Give ye Rev^d Mr Emerson ye Sum of Sixty Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence for his annuall Salary according to the advise of Capt Joseph Gould Decⁿ Ivory Hovey and others a Com^{tee} that was Chosen by the Town for that purpose and in Case it be not Comply^d with then

2 To See What Method ye Town Will porpose to the Rev^d Mr Emerson for to make a Just Settlement with him respecting his Salary

3 To See if ye Town will Build one or more School houses and to agre Whare they Shall be Sett

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doing to one or more of ye Selectmen of Said Town at Time and place above mentioned

Topsfield Novr 23rd 1752

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Dan Clarke	
Jacob Averel	
Elijah porter	
Sam ^{ll} Smith	

A True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper returns Being made of worning the Inhabatance of the Town of Topsfield on Both Worrants the meeting followed

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield December ye 5th 1752

1 Capt Tobijah Perkins is Chosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 It was put to Vote Sundry times to see If the Town Will Give the Rev^d Mr Emerson Sixty Six pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence and It Past in the Negative

Essex ss To John Balch one of ye Constables of the Town of Topsfield in his Majesties Name you are hearby required fourth-with to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatance in the South ward in said Town that are Qualified by Law for Voting to Conven and meet together at ye meeting House in said Town on Wednesday the Thirteenth Day of December Instant at Twelve of ye Clock on said Day

1 To See if the Town will Give ye Revd Mr Emerson Sixty Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings and four Pence Lawfull money for his Salary as the former Com^{tee} Reported or to See what money the Town will Give the Revd Mr Emerson as Salary for the present year according to the request of Capt Thomas Baker and others

2 To alow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of ye Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield December 5th 1752

Jacob Averel	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Dan Clarke	
Sam ^{ll} Smith	
Elijah porter	

A true Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Cler

proper returns being made of Worning the Inhabatance of ye Town the meeting followeth

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield December ye 13th 1752

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 It was put to Vote to See if the Town Will Give the Revd Mr Emerson Sixty Six pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence and it past in the Negative

3 The Town Voted to Give the Revd Mr Emerson fifty Three pounds Six Shillings and Eight pence as Salary from march ye 2nd 1752 To March 1753 provided the Revd Mr Emerson Give a Recept in full When he Rec^d the Said Sum

4 The Town allowed to Mr John Bordman and Mr David Balch Jun^r for Giting the meeting house Glass Mended one pound on Shilling and four pence Lawfull money Voted £1 1s 4d

5 the Town allowed to Stephen foster for Timber and fifty four feet of Two Inch plank Six Shillings and Eight pence Voted £0 6s 8d

Essex ss To Stephen Perkins one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name You are required fourthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of the said Town that are Qualified by Law for Voting to Convean and meet together att the meeting House in Topsfield on Tuesday the Sixth Day of March Next Ensuing the Date hearof att nine of the Clock In the fore noon

1 To Choose Selectmen a Town Clerk and Constables and all other Town Officers for the year Ensuing as the Law Directs

2 to See if the Town Will Exceep of the Selectmen Reckening With the Town Treasurer

3 To Choose Jurymen to Serve at Ipswich Court Next according to warrant

4 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail Not and make return of this Warrant With your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at Time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield Febr 22nd 1753

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averel	
Dan Clarke	
Sam ^{ll} Smith	
Elijah porter	

A True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Cl^k

A Proper return being made of worning the Inhabatance of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield March 6th 1753

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen Modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 Capt Benja Towne Mess^{rs} Jacob Averel Sam^{ll} Smith Dan Clarke Elijah Porter are Chosen Selectmen for the year Ensuing

Voted

3 Richard Towne is Chosen Town Clark for the year Ensuing

Voted

4 Mrs^{sts} Elisha Towne and John Bathalder are Chosen Constables for the year Ensuing

Voted

5 Mr Nath^l Porter is Chosen Town Treasurer for the year
Insuing Voted

6 Mr John Gould Elisha Willdes and Authur Brown is Chosen
Tything men for the year Insuing

7 Messrs Jeremiah Averel Jeremiah Towne Benja Bixby David
Balch Junr Aaron Hovey Are Chosen Suevovyers of highways for
the year Insuing Voted

8 Mr Joshua Towne is Chosen Sealer of Lather for the year
Insuing Voted

9 Messrs Nathan Hood John Bordman Elisha Commings are
Chosen fence vewers the year Insuing Voted

10 Messrs Joseph Peabody Thos Symonds are Chosen Hog-
reaves for the year Ensuing Voted

11 The Town Exepted of the Selectmens Rickening with the
Town Treasurer and their Remains in Said Treasurer hand not
ordred out ninty Eight Pounds Theirteen Shillings and Three
Pence £98 13s 3d

12 Mr John Bordman is Chosen Grand Jury for the year
Ensuing Voted

13 Msrs^{rs} William Rogers Stephen forster are Chosen to Serve
on the Jury of Tryalls Next to Be holden att Ipswich

12 The Town allowed to Mr Thomas Symonds five Shillings
and four pence for Pine Bords to mend the Meeting House :
£0 5s 4d Voted

13 The Town allowed to Mr Simon Gould Nineteen Shillings
and one pence for fenceing Stufe and Laber about the Parsonage
to mend the said fence Voted £0 19s 1d

14 the Town allowed to Mr Elisha Town four Shillings nine
pence Happance for Timber to Mend Robinson Bridge So Called
Voted £0 4s 9d 1/2

15 The Town allowed to Mr John Baker Sixteen Shillings for
Bording the School master one mounth Voted 0 16 0

16 the Town allowed to Mr Thomas Perkins Eight Pence for
Timber to mend a Bridge With by Capt Gould Voted 0 0 8

17 the Town allowed to Qur Dan Clarke for his Son Daniel
Sweeping the meeting House the year past Sixteen Shillings
0 16 0

18 The Town alowed to Nath^l Hood Ten Shillings and Two
Pence It being a Batement of his Rate in William Rogers List
Voted 0 10 2

19 the allowed to David Prichard four Shillings and nine
Pence it being abatement of his Reate Voted 0 4 9

The Several Officers Chosen att the above said meeting of

whom an oath by Law is required Took their Respective oaths one the Same Day of the above said meeting

Essex ss To Elisha Towne one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties name you are hearby Required fourthwith to worn all the freeholders and Other Inhabatance in the South Ward in Said Town that are Qualified by Law for Voting to Conven and meet Together att ye Meeting house in Said Town on Monday the Twenty Sixth of march Instant att Two of the Clock afternoon

1 To See if the Town will fence the Personage with Stone-wall whare the rail fence is by making Each Person of Said Town Do his proportion of the fence within one year according to the Rates they pay in Said Town and In Case ye above articals be Complied with then

2 to Chouse a Committe to measuer ye fence Round the Parsonage and to Lay out Each Persons Proportion of Said fence whare thay Shall Do it

3 to See if the Town will Give the Revd Mr Emerson Sixty Six pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence Lawfull money for his Salary according to the advise of the Last Com^{tee} that was Chosen to advise the Town on that account or to See Weither the Town Will Come into any meathard to make a Setteltment with ye Revd Mr Emerson Respecting his Salary the above articul Was Inserted att ye Request of the Revd Mr Emerson

4 to See if the Town Will Come into a vote or meathard to make and mend ye heighways and Rods in said Town by Taxing the Inhabatance to Do the work or for said Inhabatance to Pay their respective Tax In Case they shall neglect to work on Due worning Given by ye Survoyers or to See if Said Town will Come into any rules or meathards to make and mend Said highways and rodes in Town

5 to See if the Town will build one or more School house or School houses and to agree Whare ye said School house or School houses shall be Seet

6 to Chouse a Com^{tee} to Supply the Town With a School Master the year Ensuing

7 to See if the Town will Let Swine go at Large as the Law Directs

8 for the Town to Bring in their votes for a County Treasurer

9 to alow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town

Topsfield March 20th 1753

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averel	
Dan Clarke	
Elijah Porter	

This is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clr

A Proper Return being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town one both warrants the meeting followed

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield March ye 26th 1753

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen modrator for the said meeting
Voted

2 The Town Voted and the Revd Mr Emerson Excepted of Sixty Pounds money as money now Stand for his annual Salary Viz from march 1752 yearly and Every year So Long as he shall Continuer his mnstr^y amongst us Provided the said Revd Mr Emerson Give the Said Town a Full Discharge yearly and Every year when he is Paid the said Sixty Pounds

3 The Town Voted that the heighways and Rodes should be mended by Laying a Tax upon the Inhabatance of the Town to parfit the Said work
Voted

4 the Town agreed yt Swine shall go at Large the year En-
suing provided they are as the Law Directs
Voted

Essex ss To John Bathalder one of ye Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his majesties Name you are hearby Required forth With to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatance That are Qualified by Law for Voting in the North Ward in Said Town to Conven and meet Together in the meeting house in said Town on Wednesday ye Twenty Third of this Instant at Two of the Clock after noon

1 To Chouse a Representitive according to precept

2 to See how much money the Town will raise to Defray the Charges of mending the heighways the present year

3 to See how much money a teem shall be allowed pr Day for working at the heighways and how much money a man shall be allowed pr Day for working at the heighways this Present year

4 to See if the Town fence the Parsonage with Stone-wall by Laying a Tax to Defray the Charge of fencing Said Parsonage

5 to Chouse a Com^{tee} to agree with any person or persons to fence said Parsonage with Stone wall

6 To Chouse a Com^{tee} to new Seat the People in the meeting house annually as their may be ocation

7 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of ye Selectmen at Time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield May 16th 1753

Jacob Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Dan Clarke	
Sam ^l Smith	
Elijah Porter	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabatance of the Town on Both Warrants the meeting followes

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield May ye 23rd 1753

1 The Town made Choise of Mr Elijah Porter to Repesent the Town att the Great and Genarel Court to be holden at Boston the year Insuing

their being other Bisness to be Done at said meeting

2 Capt Benja Towne was Chosen modrator for said meeting

Voted

3 the Town Voted to Raise money to mend the heighways with

4 The Town voted that the Selectmen shall assess the Inhabatants of the Town in a Tax of Twenty pounds of money one poles and Estates Both Real and Parsonall

5 The Town Voted that one pare of oxen and a Cart Should be Two Shilling pr Day a working at the heigh ways the year Ensuing

6 The Town agreed that a man shall have Two Shillings Pr Day at work att the High ways the year Ensuing Voted

7 the Town allowed to Israel Clarke for Sixty Three foot of white oak Plank Six Shilling and Eight pence £0 6s 8d

Essex ss To John Batchaller one of the Constable of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting In his majesties Name you are Required forthwith to Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of sd Town that are quallified for Voting by Law to Conven and meet Together at the meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday ye Eighteenth Day of September next at Two of ye Clock in ye after noon

1 To Choose Jurymen to Serve at Newbury Court according to precept

2 To See how much money ye Town Will Raise to Defray the Town Charges this Present year

3 To See if the Town will fence the whole of the Personage With Stone wall Either by Chooseing a Comtee to Sett out to Each Person their parte of fence to Do according to the reats they Pay or to Cause ye work to be Don and Draw money out of the Town Treasury to pay the Charges of Doing it

4 To allow Bills of Charge

Hear of fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town att Time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield August 27th 1753

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averel	
Dan Clarke	
Sam ^l Smith	
Elijah Porter	

a proper Return being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield Sept ye 18th 1753

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen modrator for this meeting
Voted

2 Mr Samll Smith Mr Jacob Dwinell are Drawn out of ye Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at newbury Court

3 The Town Voted to fence the Parsonage with a Stone Wall

4 The Town Voted that the Parsonage fence shall be Done according to the Rates thay Pay

5 Leut Luke Averell Mr John Gould and Mr David Balch Junr are Chosen a Comtee to Lay out Each parsons proportion of fence Round the Parsonage according to the Rates they Pay
Voted

6 the Town allowed to Mr Samll Smith former Constable Three Shillings and nine pence it Being an abatement of Jonathan Perly Rate
Voted

7 The Town allowed to Mr Samll Smith former Constable five Shillings and nine pence it being abatement of Mr Richard Masshall Rate
Voted

8 the Town Voted yt the Selectmen shall Lay a Tax upon the Inhabatance of the Town of ninty Pounds to Defray the Charges the year Insuing

Boston October 2: 1753 Rec^d of Mr John Balch Cons^{sta} of Topsfield Twelve Pounds four Shillings and Ten pence In full
H Gray Treas^r

A True Copy of the Treasurer Receipt

attest Rich^d Towne Town Clk

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield October 10th 1753

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen to Serve on ye Grand jury at the Next Supr Court To Be holden at Salem Voted

2 Deacon Daniel Gould and Capt Tobijah Perkins are Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the Next Supr Court to be holden at Salem

Essex ss To Elisha Town one of the Constables of ye Towne of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required fourthwith to worn all ye freeholders and other Inhabatance in ye South ward in Said Town that are quallified for voting to assemble and Conven together at ye meeting house In Said Town on Tuesday ye fourth Day of December next att Two of ye Clock after noon

1 To See if the Town Will Except of the Return of the Comtee that was appointed to Apportion ye Parsonage fence according to the Town Vote and In Case the Said Comtee has not Effectted the matter that they was Chosen to do Then

2 To See if ye Town will Choose another Comtee to Effect Said matter Either by Setting out to Each person their part to Do in Stone wall according to the rates thay pay in said Town on Cause ye whole of Said fence to be built in Stone wall and a Tax to be Laid on ye Inhabatances of Said Town to pay for ye Doing of it but If the Town Shall not agree to the above articule Then

3 for the Town to Come into any other methard or meathards for Said Parsonage fence to be Built into Stone Wall yt thay Shall Think Proper

4 To See if the Town will Give Liberty for Such of ye Inhabatances of sd Town as are Inclined to build Stables Next ye meeting house

5 to allow bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen at time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield November 27th 1753

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Auverell	
Dan Clarke	
Samll Smith	

a proper returne being made of worning ye Inhabatance of the Town the meeting followed

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield Dec^{mr} ye 4th 1753

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen modrater for this meeting

Voted

2 The Town agrees that a Tax Shall be Laid by ye Selectmen on Poles and Estates within the Town of Topsfield to Defray ye Charge of Building the whole of the Parsonage fence that is yett to build in Stone wall at the rate of four Shillings pr rod their being 178 Poles and four Links yett to build in Stone wall

Voted

3 the Town agrees that Each Parson both for Poles and Estate That are in Said Town Shall have Liberty to Build their proportionable Part of Said fence as a foresd Provided Thay Do it by ye Tenth Day of June Next

Voted

4 The Town agrees that Ensⁿ Nath^l Averell Leu^t Luke Averell and Mr Ephraim Wildes shall be a Com^{tee} to Sett out to Each person and Estate in said Town their proportionable Part of said fence to Do both for Quantity and quallity according to the rates thay pay in Said Town

Voted

5 The Town Gave Libity to Capt Benja Towne to build a Stable att ye Surtherly End of Decn Byxbys Stable

Voted

6 the Town allowed to Mr Samll Bradstreet Eight Shillings for Seventy foot of Two inch Plank

Voted

Essex ss To Elisha Towne one of ye Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required fourthwith to worn all ye freeholders and other Inhabatants of the South Ward in sd Town that are Qualified by Law for Voting to assambel and Conven together att ye Meeting house in said Town on fryday ye forth Day of January Instant att one of ye Clock afternoon

1 To See if the Town will accept of the Return of the Com^{tee} that was Chosen to apportion the Parsonage fence according to the vote of said Town and in Case The Town Shall accept of said Commetees return Then

2 To See if the Town Will Give Every Person Libity that has any part of said fence to Do to Dig and hall rocks of from the Parsonage to buld their part of wall with

3 To See if the Town Will Chuse a Com^{tee} to view the wall that Each Person Shall build round the Parsonage and See yt it is Don according to Law and to build Such persons parts of said fence into Stone wall as may Neglect or refuses to it and So Cause ye whole of ye Towns part of sd fence to be Built in Stone wall by the Tenth Day of July next and also to Dispose of ye rail fence whare whare said wall shall be built in such way and manner as ye Town shall think Proper

4 To See if the Town Will agree that Each Person that shall produce a Cartificcate from under ye Com^{tees} hand that thay have built their part of said wall agreeable to Law and the true Designe there of that ye Constables shall then Cross them out of ye rate made to Defray ye Charge of fenceing ye Parsonage With Stone Wall

5 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and Make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town at time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield January 1st: 1754

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averel	
Dan Clarke	
Samll Smith	

This is a true Copy of ye warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Cl^r

a proper return being made of worning the Inhabetance of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield January 4th 1754

1 Capt Benja Towne was Chosen moderator for sd meeting
Voted

2 Samll Smith was Chosen and Sworn Clerk for sd meeting
Voted

3 The Town Excepted of ye return of the Com^{tee} that was Chosen to appotion to Each Person and Estates in sd Town Their Proportionable part of fence round ye Parsonage to build in to Stone wall according to the rates they pay in Said Town as thay had Don it
Voted

4 The Town agrees that Each Person that has any part of fence to Do round ye Parsonage Shall have Liberty to Dig rocks in and hall them of from the Parsonage to Build their Part with
Voted

5 The Town Agreed that Ensn Nath^l Averel Leut Luke Averell Mr. Ephram Willdes Ser Solomon Gould Mr Matthew Peabody Shall be a Com^{tee} to view the wall that Each Person Shall build round ye Parsonage and See that it is Don according to Law and to build Such Persons Part of fence into Stone wall as may Neglect or refuse to Do it and So Cause the whole of ye Towns part of Said fence to be built into stone wall by the Tenth Day of July next
Voted

6 the Town agreed that Each Person that Shall Produce a

Cartificate from Under ye Com^{tees} hand that they have built their part of Said wall agreeable to Law and the True Designe thei^{ro}f that the Constables shall then Cross them out of ye rate that is made To Defray ye Charges of fenceing ye Parsonage into Stone wall

Voted

Sam^l Smith Clerk for sd meeting

This is a True Copy attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

We ye Subscribers being Chosen a Com^{tee} by ye Inhabatants of ye Town of Topsfield Do Set out to Each Person and Estates in sd Town their proportionable part of the whole of ye parsonage fence which is yit to be Built in Stone wall in said Topsfield Both for Quantiey and Quality according to the rates they pay in said Town as by a vote of said Inhabatantes Recorded in said Town book may appear according to our Best Skill and Judgement we have Done it in the following manner

Their Being Six parts or divisions the first Division Begins att ye norwesterly end of the Town wall by Land of Sam^l Smith and from thence runs Norwesterly by Land of sd Smith to Bare hill plain the Second Division begins att a Round O at the middle of ye Rail fence Between sd plain and the Personage thence runs Northeasterly by sd plan to the Stone wall The Third Devision begins near to the westerly Corner of Land of Jacob Perkins Jur thence runs Southeasterly to the Divisional Bounds Between sd Perkins and the Personage the forth Division begins at the Corner by Prichards thence runs Southeasterly by Prichards and by the County Road to the Revnd Mr Emersons Lott wharein is his Barn the fifth Division beging at the Corner of the fence between sd Lot and the personage thence runs Southerly to the middel of ye fence By said Lott the Sixth Division begins at the Norwesterly Corner of the Northermost Stable thence runs Southerly and then weastwardly by the Road Leading from the meeting house to Decn Goulds and for further Explaineing the matter we have Six Colloms for the Siting forth of Each and Every mans Lott of fence against sd parsonage the first Collom Shews the number the second the Lott the Third the name the fourth ye Rods the fifth the Links the Sixts the Tenths of a Link

N	L	Names	rods	Links	10 th
		the first Lot in the first division			
		is set out to Samll Smith	1	11	6
ye 2		Lot to Capt Benja Towne	3	10	5
ye 3		Lot to Capt Ivory Hovey and Aaron	2	4	2
4		Lott to Simon Gould	1	16	0
5		Lott to Leut Thomas Gould	2	0	5
6		Lott to Joseph Gould	2	11	2
7		Lot to Decn Daniel Gould	1	21	0
8		Lot to Stephen Towne	1	0	0
9		Lot to Jabes Towne	1	2	0
10		Lot to Jabes Towne Junr	0	10	7
11		Lott to Elisha Townes	1	3	5
12		Lott to Elijah Porter	2	2	5
13		Lot to Thomas Porter	0	10	5
		the first Lott in the Second Division			
		is to Isreal Clarke	1	18	0
2		Lott to Isreal Clarke Jur	0	9	0
3		Lott to Joseph Brown	2	20	5
4		Lott to John Balch	1	13	0
5		Lott to Joseph Hovey & Marshall	2	7	5
6		Lott to Nathan Hood	1	1	0
7		Lott to William Hood	0	9	0
8		Lott to John hood	0	11	0
9		Lott to Cor David Commings	2	18	7
10		Lott to John Clarke	0	16	0
		the first Lott in the Third Division			
		is to Jacob Dormon	3	20	3
2		Lott to Jacob Dorman Jur	0	22	5
3		Lott to ye wid Abigail Dorman	5	1	7
4		Lott to Stephen forster	4	18	0
5		Lott to John Davis & Benja Woodbury	3	15	3
6		Lot to Capt Tobijah and John Perkins	5	20	0
7		Lott to Joseph Perkins	0	13	8
8		Lott to Jacob Perkins Jur	1	9	0
9		Lott to Wiliam Perkins	3	12	0
10		Lot to Nathl Bordman	2	19	0
11		Lot to John Bordman	4	13	0
12		Lot to Sar. Nathll Porter	5	9	0
13		Lot to wid hannah Harrick	1	12	0
14		Lot to Joseph Towne	2	15	0
15		Lot to Nathll Low	2	3	0

1 the first Lott in the forth Division is set to Capt Thos Baker	2	13	8
2 Lot to Thomas Baker Jur	0	9	6
3 Lot to William Rogers	1	13	5
4 Lot to Nathll Towne	0	7	2
5 Lot to Thomas Symonds	1	12	5
6 Lot to ye wid Ruth Dorman	0	3	2
7 Lot to Philip Neland	0	18	0
8 Lott to Phillip Neland Jur	0	7	2
9 Lott to Auther Brown	0	24	5
10 Lott to John Bathalder	1	5	4
11 Lott to Joseph Peabody	1	0	7
12 Lott to Dod micheal Dwinel	0	19	2
13 Lott to Micheal Dwinell Jur	1	1	5
14 Lott to Jacob Dwinell	0	24	0
15 Lott to Thomas Dwinell	1	4	0
16 Lott to Benja Dwinell	0	13	0
17 Lott to James Dwinell	0	14	0
18 Lott to Bartholomew Dwinell	0	7	2
19 Lott to Archelus Dwinell	0	7	2
20 Lott to Uriel Rea	0	21	6
21 Lott to David Towne	0	24	0
22 Lott to John Willard	0	9	6
23 Lott to Edmond Putman	0	18	8
24 Lott to Thomas Mower	1	6	2
25 Lott to Jeremiah Towne	1	0	7
26 Lot to Benja Towne Jur	0	19	2
27 Lott to Samll Bradstreet	2	16	6
28 Lott to Samuel Bradstreet Jr	0	7	2
29 Lott to Elijah Bradstreet	0	7	2
30 Lott to John Bradstreet	1	1	9
31 Lott to out Town men	5	3	0
32 Lott to Jacob Perkins	1	8	7
33 Lott to Thos Perkins Jur	1	0	7
34 Lott to Robert & Amos Perkins	1	18	7
35 Lott to Elisha Commings	1	5	8
36 Lott to Samuel Potter	0	11	2
37 Lott to Ebeneser Averel	0	13	6
41 Lott to Nathll Averel	0	22	8
42 Lott to Jacob Averel	1	8	7
43 Lott to Jacob Averell Jr	0	9	2
44 Lott to David Prichard	0	7	2
45 Lott to Samuel Phippan	0	7	2

38 Lott to Joseph Andrews	0	23	6
39 Lott to Joseph Andrews Jr	0	22	8
40 Lott to Luke Averell	1	19	5
the Three Last was Mist Plast			
46 Lott to Jeremiah Averel	1	8	6
47 Lott to Ephram Willdes	1	18	7
48 Lott to John Willdes	0	21	6
49 Lott to Elisha Willdes	1	7	0
50 Lott to Nathan Willdes	0	17	6
51 Lott to ye wid Edwards & Thos Edwards	1	2	3
52 Lott to Samuel Perkins	2	3	9
53 Lott to John Perkins	1	2	0
54 Lott to Stephen Perkins	1	0	2
1 the first Lott in the fifth Division to David Perkins	1	1	8
2 Lott to Samuel Towne	0	20	8
3 Lott to Samuel Towne Jur	0	7	2
4 Lott to Philip Towne	1	3	0
5 Lott to Doct Richard Dexter	1	19	5
6 Lott to Joshua Towne	0	8	0
7 Lott to Joshua Towne Jur	0	21	6
8 Lott to David Balch	1	5	0
9 Lott to David Balch Junr	0	16	8
10 Lott to Joshua Balch	0	16	0
11 Lott to Simon Bradstreet	0	12	8
1 the first Lott in the Sixth Division to Qur Dan Clarke	2	3	0
2 Lott to John Cree	0	20	8
3 Lott to Elieser Lake	0	7	2
4 Lott to Elieser Lake Junr	1	1	5
5 Lott to Daniel Lake	1	20	7
6 Lott to Decn George Byxby	1	3	0
7 Lott to Daniel Bixby	1	2	0
8 Lott to Benja Bixby	1	2	0
9 Lott to Qur Matthew Peabody	1	9	0
10 Lott to John Peabody	0	7	2
11 Lott to Richard Towne	1	3	0
12 Lott to Aaron Easty	2	9	7
13 Lott to Isreal Averel	0	19	6
14 Lott to Jacob Robinson	1	0	0
15 Lott to ye wid Dorothy Riggs	0	4	5

16 Lott to John Lefaver	0	8	0
17 Lott to Enos Towne	0	7	3
18 Lott to Joseph Towne Jur	0	7	3
19 Lott to Thomas Perkins	1	3	0
20 Lott to Enock Perkins	0	7	2
21 Lott to Zacchus Gould	1	8	0
22 Lott to William Gallap	0	7	2
23 Lott to Eliezer Gould	0	19	0
24 Lott to John Gould	1	10	5
25 Lott to Solomon Gould	1	12	5
26 Lott to Samuel Marster	0	7	2
27 Lot to Zebulon Willdes	0	19	2

In Conformation of all above Written we have hear unto set
our hands this Third Day of January anno Dom 1754 in ye
Twenty Eight year of his Majesties Reign

Luke Averell
Nath^l Averell
Ephram Willdes

} Com^{tee}

This is a True Copy

attest Rich^d Towne Town Cl^r

Essex ss To Elisha Towne one of the Constables of ye Town
of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby
required forthwith to Warn all the freeholders and other In-
habatants in the South Ward in said Town that are Qualified
by Law for Voting to assemble and Conven Together at the
Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the fifth Day of March
Next Ensuing at nine of the Clock in ye forenoon

1 To Chouse Selectmen a Town Clerk and all other Town
officers as the Law Directs

2 to See if the Town will advise the Selectmen to Lay out a
Town highway on ye South Side of the Rever from the rever
Bridge to wenham Line according to the petition of a Number
of the Inhabants of wenham and Beverly

3 To See if ye Town will Give Mr David Commings Libity to
Erect a Stable Near the meeting house

4 to See if the Town Will Chuse a Com^{tee} to Dispose of the
Postes and rails of the Parsonage fence for ye Towns Best
Use and Benefit

5 To Chouse Jurymen to Serve at Ipswich Court next march
according to Warrant

6 to See if the Town Will Except of the Selectmen Recking
With the Town Treasurer

7 to allow Bills of Charge

hearof fail not and make return of this your Warrant With
your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town att
Time and Place above Mentioned

Topsfield febr 20th 1754

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averel	
Dan Clarke	
Samll Smith	
Elijah porter	

this is a True Coppy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clr

proper returns being made of worning the Inhabitance of the
Town the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield March ye 5th 1754

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 Capt Benja Towne Mr Jacob Averel Qur Dan Clarke Mrsrs
Samll Smith and Elijah Porter are Chosen Selectmen for the
year Insuing

Voted

3 Richard Towne is Chosen Town Clerk for the year Insuing

Voted

4 Jabes Towne and Joseph Hovey are Chosen Constables for
the year Insuing

Voted

5 Capt Thos Baker is Chosen Town Treasurer for the year
Insuing

Voted

6 Elieser Lake Jur Elisha Commings and Thos Dwinell are
Chosen Tything men for the year Insuing

Voted

7 Daniel Byxby Jacob Dwinell Robert Perkins Daniel Lake
and John Perkins Jur are Chosen Survoyers of the high Ways
the year Insuing

Voted

8 David Perkins is Chosen Sealer of Lather for ye year In-
suing

Voted

9 Solomon Gould John Gould and Joseph Gould are Chosen
fence viewers for the year Insuing

Voted

10 John Cree and Joshua Towne Jur are Chosen Hogreaves
the year Insuing

Voted

11 the Town agreed that Each Person shall have the posts
and Rails that is against his Part of Stone wall Round ye par-
sonage

Voted

12 the Town Gave Libity to Mr David Commings to set up
a Stable at the Northerly End of John Goulds Stable about Twelve
foot Long

Voted

13 Nathanel Porter Jur is Chosen Grand Jury man for the
year Insuing

Voted

14 Israel Averell and Jeremiah Averell are Drown out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at the next Infear^r Court to be holden at Ipswich Voted

15 The Town abated Sam^{ll} Masster Rates in Constable Elisha Townes List Voted

16 the Town abated Jonathan Willdes rates for the year 1753 Voted

17 The Town abated Elieser Gould rates which he was rated in John Balchs List for his head Voted

18 the Town allowed to David Balch Juner for a plank 19 foot 1/2 to amend a Bridge with £0 1s 6d
and to Timber to mend a Brege with 0 1 4 Voted

19 The Article Concerning the heighway petitioned for by Sum of Wenham and Beverly Which the Town Left for further Consideration Voted

the officers Chosen att the above said meeting to which an Oath Belonged ware Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their officis Before the Selectmen Immeditately after the meeting was Over Exexcepting John Gould and Thomas Dwinell

Essex ss To Jabes Towne one of the Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting in his Majesties Name you are hearby required forthwith to Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabitants in the South Ward in sd Topsfield that are qualified by Law for Voting to Conven and Meet Together at ye meeting house in sd Town on Tuesday the Ninteenth of March Instant att Two of the Clock in the afternoon

1 To Chouse a Com^{tee} to Supply the Town with a School Marster for the year Ensuing

2 To See if the Town will Chouse a Com^{tee} to take Care and Due up all the rail fence round the parsonage that is not made into wall by the first Day of April next to ye Tenth Day of June Next

3 To See if the Town will mend the heighways in sd Town by a rate and to See how much more the Town will raise to Defray the Charges of mending sd ways this present year

4 to See if the Town will advise the Selectmen to Lay out a Private Town Way on the South Side of the rever in sd Town from the County road to Wenham Line according to ye Petition of a Number of the Inhabatants of Beavely and Wenham

5 To See if the Town will Lett out ye Pue on the right hand of ye frunt Door in ye meeting house in sd Town for the year Ensuing to Such Person or Persons as will give most for it

6 to See if ye Town Will Lett Swine go att Large the year Insuing as the Law Directs

7 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of the Warrant With your Doings to one or more of ye Selectmen of sd Town att Time and place above mentioned

Topsfield March 14th 1754

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averell	
Dan Clarke	
Elijah Porter	
Samll Smith	

A Proper Return Being made of worning the Inhabitants of the Town on both warrants the meeting followeth

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield March 19th 1754

1 Capt Towne is Chosen Modrater for this Meeting Voted

2 Leut Thomas Gould Thomas Perkins Jur Sar Jacob Robinson are Chosen a Com^{tee} to Supply the Town with a School Master the year Ensuing Voted

3 the Town agreed to rais forty pounds on poles and Estates to Defray the Charges of mending the heigh ways the year Insuing Voted

4 The Town advisd the Selectmen not to Lay out a highway from the County Road to wenham Line untill Wenham Selectmen had Layd out a high way to Topsfield Line so as they may Know Whare to Lay Said road Voted

5 The Town agreed that Doct Dexter shall have the Libity he and His famely of Seting in the Pue yt is att the Reight hand of the frunt Door in the meeting house Voted

6 the Town Gave Libity for Swine to go att Large the year Insuing provided thay are as the Law Directs Voted

7 the Town allowed to Qur Dan Clarke Sixteen Shillings for Sweeping the meeting house the year Insuing Voted

We the Subscribers Being appointed a Com^{tee} to Prambulate and Renew the Bounds Between Topsfield and Middlton and accordingly We have met the 30th Day of Aprill 1754 and renewed the Bounds as formerly thay ware

Com ^{tee} for	{ Benja Towne Nath ^l porter Jr	Com ^{tee} for	{ John Wilkins Joseph fuller Josa ^a Wright
Topsfield		Middleton	

this is a True Copy of ye Prambulation

attest Rich^d Towne Town Cl^r

Essex ss To Jabes Towne one of ye Constables of Topsfield Greeting in his Majesties Name you are hearby required forth-with to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of the South Ward in Said Town that are Qualified by Law for voting to Conven Together att the meeting house in Said Town on Tusday the fourteenth Day of May next att Two of the Clock in the afternoon

1 to Chouse a Reperesentative according to the precept

2 To Chouse a Com^{tee} to Supply the Town With a School Master this present year

3 to See What the Town will allow for a mans working att the Heighways pr Day this year and what for a pare of oxen pr Day and what for a Cart pr Day

4 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield April 30th 1754

Jacob Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Dan Clarke	
Samll Smith	
Elijah porter	

this is a True Copy of ye Warrant

proper returns being made on both Warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town meeting followeth

att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield May 14th 1754

1 Capt Towne is Chosen Modrator for this meeting Voted

2 Mr Thomas Symonds Mr David Balch and Mr John Bordman are Chosen a Com^{tee} to Supply the Town With a School Master the year Insuing Voted

3 The Town agreed that a man Shall have 2 Shillings pr Day att work at the heighways and a paer of Oxen one Shilling pr Day and a Cart or Tumbrell one Shilling pr Day and To proprosonable as the Team is

4 the Town allowed to Leut Luke Averell one pound Twelve Shillings for Bording the School Marster Two mounths in the year 1753

att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield May ye 14th 1754 the Town Made Choise of Mr Elijah porter to represent the Town att the Great and Genearel Court to be holden att Boston the year Ensuing

We the Subribers being Autherised & Impowered to Pramblate the Lines and Bounds between the Town of Topsfield &

The Districk of Danvers Begining att a white oak Stump with Stones about it Standing about one Rod and one half North Easterly from the ophulus Folks Barn Near Wenham Causway from thence to a Black or Red Tree Stump with a heap of Stones Standing in Daniel Gotts orchard and from thence to a heap of Stones near Thomas Dwnells paster from thence to a heap of Stones near Nickeles Brook So on the Same Course to Said Brook Near a Saw mill April 30th 1754

James prince	} Danvers	Aaron Easty	} Topsfield
Eleaser porter		Thos porter	
Samuel putman			

Copy attest Richd Towne Town Clerk

We the Subribers being appointed and Impowered by the Selectmen of wenham and Topsfield to prambulate and Renew the Bounds Between the Said Town we have met and have mutely agreed as followeth Viz Begining at the White oak Stump of a Tree which is Danvers Northeasterly Corner Bounds from thence to a Stake and heap of Stones By the heighway Leding from wenham Causway to Bunkers Medow one the West Side of the way from thence to a plump or Stump of maples but now a heap of Stones in a Brook thence as the Brook Runs to a Stake & heap of Stones att the Goining over the Said Brook—from thence to the South Easterly Corner of pigdons medow so Calld and So to the River all which is agreeable to the Selectmen in the year 1740

Jacob Dwinell	} for Topsfield	Thomas Tarbox	} Wenham
Richard Towne		Benja Kimbell	
		Isaac Dodges	
		Samll Tarbox	

this is a True Copy

attest Richard Towne Town Cr

We the Subscribers have this Day meet and have Preamblated on ye Line and renewed the bounds Between ye Towns of Topsfield and Boxford as followeth Begining att an appletree in Mr Asa perley field from thence to a Stake and heap of Stones att ye South Easterly Corner of Bakers farm so called thence to whare ye water runs through ye Dam near Simon Goulds house Called Andross Dam thence to a Stake & heap of Stones by the fishing Brook on the Easterly Side of a rivellet runing into Said Brook thence as sd Brook runs to Ipswich river so called thence up said river to middelton Line Com^{tee} for Topsfield and Boxford

Joseph Hale Juner
Thomas perley
paul prichard

Benja Towne
Jacob Averell
Samll Smith

Essex ss To Jabes Towne one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In His Majesties Name you are hearby Required fourthwith to Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants in the South Ward in Said Town that are Qualified by Law for Voting to Conven and meet together att the meeting house in sd Town on Tuesday the Seventeenth Day of this Instant att Two of the Clock afternoon

1 to Chouse Jury men to Serve att Newbury Court

2 To See if the Town would have the Bill made into a Law that is prepered by the General Court for an Excise to be paid upon Spirrttuous Licquors that is Consumed in privet houses

3 to See if the Town will Except of the Com^{tee} report respecting the Parsonage fence and to act any thing further that is Nessary to be Don on Said affares

4 To See how much money the Town Will raise to Defray the Town Charges this present year

5 to See what meathards the Town will Come into in order to Establish a Just Setteltment with the revd Mr Emerson Respecting his Sallary

6 to allow Bills of Charge

hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield Sept^r 9th 1754

Jacob Averel	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Dan Clarke	
Elijah porter	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield Sept 17th 1754

1 Capt Towne is Chosen modrator for this meeting Voted

2 David perkins and Simon Gould are Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury at the Next Infear Court to be Holden at Newbury

3 the Town agreed that the Selectmen Shall Lay a Tax upon the Inhabitants of the Town of Sixty Pounds to Defray the Charges of the Town the year Ensuing Voted

4 The Town Excepted of the Com^{tee} Report Respecting the Parsonage fence Voted

5 The Town allowed to Mr thomas Symonds and Mr John Bordman Two Pounds for the School Marster for one months Keeping School £2 0 0

6 the Town allowed to Mr Stephen foster 0 6 5 for Eighty foot of white oak plank to mend Briges with Voted

Topsfield Sept 13th 1754 to the Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Gentlemen

We Haveing Ben Chosen and appointed a Comtee to Sirvay the parsonage fence in sd Topsfield accordingly We have proceeded and Servayd the same and Do Esteem to be a Soffisient Stone wall fence in wittness whereof We have hear Unto Set our hands the Day above Said

Ephraim Willdes	} Comtee
Luke Averel	
Nath ^l Averell	

this is a True Copey of the Comtee Return of the parsonage fence

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Essex ss To Joseph Hovey one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required fourth With to Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabitants That are Qualified for Voting in the North Ward in sd Town to Conven together att ye meeting House in said Town on Tuesday ye Eighth Day of October Instn att Two of the Clock afternoon

1 to See What Sum of money the Town will Give the Revd Mr Emerson for his annual Sallary So Long as he Shall Continue the work of ye ministry amongst us in said Town in lieu of ye Sum mentioned in his former Contract made with said Town and in Lieu of all the Sums of money that have att any time heartofore been voted by Said Town to be paid to him for or as Sallary and in case the Town Shall agree to vote any Certain Sum Then

2 To See if the Town Will Chuse a Comte to Lay ye Sum voted Before the revd Mr Emerson for his acceptance or Refussell and in Case he shall axcept of the Sum voted then for Said Comtee to Cause a firme Settlement to be made with the said Revd Mr Emerson respecting his said Sallary and Reccorded in the Town Book in a proper manner

3 To See if the town will Give Edmond Putnam and his famely Libity to Sitt in the Pue on ye right hand of the frunt Dore in the meeting house—from this time to the first of next May

4 To Choose Jurymen for Salem Court according to precept

5 To See what the Town will Do Towards ye maintaintes of Elesabeth Dwinell and agree with Sum meet person to take Care of her

6 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your
Doing to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town att Time
and place above mentioned

Topsfield October 1st 1754

Jacob Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Dan Clarke	
Elijah porter	
Samll Smith	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

Proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabitants of
the Town of Topsfield on Both Warrants the meeting followeth
att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield October 8th 1754

1 Mr Elijah Porter is Chosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 The Town made Choise of Mr David Balch to Serve on the
Grand Jury att the Next Supr Court to be holden att Salem

Voted

3 Mr John Batchalder and Qur Dan Clarke was Drawn out
of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the next Supr
Court to be holden att Salem

4 the Town allowed to Mr Joseph Hovey Eight pence pr week
from the first of May to the Eight of October for Keeping Elisa-
beth Dwinell and from the Eight Day of October So Long as
She Keeps att his house and not able to Support herself one
Shilling and four pence per week

Voted

5 the Town allowed to Jeremiah Towne former Constable
Seven Shillings it being an abatement of George Dwinell Rate

Voted

6 the Town allowed to Jeremiah Towne former Constable
Two Shillings and Eight Pence it being an abatement of John
and James Nickels Rate

Voted

7 the Town allowed to Samll phippian What he was Rated in
John Batchalder and Stephen Perkins former Constables Rates

Voted

Essex ss To Joseph Hovey one of the Constables of the Town
of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby
required fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and other In-
habitants that are Quallified by Law for Voting in the North
Ward in Said Town to Conven and meet Together att the Meet-
ing house in Said Town on fryday the Tenth Day of January
Inst att one of the Cloock afternoon

1 To See what the Town will act relating to a petition of Mr Jonathan porter of wenham and others respecting a highway that is to be Laid out from Said Wenham to the County road in Topsfield

2 To See what further meathard ye Town will Come into respecting the maintances of Elisabeth Dwinell

3 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town att Time and place above mentioned

Topsfield January 7th 1755

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averell	
Dan Clarke	
Samll Smith	

a True Copy of the warrant attest Richd Towne Town Clr

proper returns Being made on both Warrants of worning the Inhabitatts of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth att a Legall Meeting in Topsfield January 10th 1755

1 Capt Towne is Chosen Modrator for this meeting Voted

2 The Town agreed to Give Samuell Tappley one Shilling and four pence per week for keeping Elisabeth Dwinell from the Tenth Day of January to the first Town meeting in March Next Insuing Voted

Wee the Subscribers being a Comtee apointed by the Town of Ipswich and the Town of Topsfield to prambulate the Line Between the said Towns mett to perambulate Said Line this Sixteenth Day of Decr 1754 and Began by the River att the mouth of Houletts Brook and so runs by Said Brook to a Stake and heap of Stones in Nelands meadow and from Said Heap of Stones to a heap of Stones on a Hill with a Stake and marked 1754 and from thence to a Stake Standing in a Great Spring in Conants meadow from thence to a heap of Stones being about Eight rods westward from the Brook near Stephen fosters house from thence on a strait Line runing by Burnams Land to a Black oak Tree att the Bottom of the hill being the Corner of perkins land So on to the pond and so on a Straight Line to an apple Tree and Stones about it the Corner bounds Between Ipswich Topsfield and Boxford

Comtee for Ipswich	} Samuel Rogers Aaron Potter John Smith	Benja Towne	} Comtee for Topsfield
		Dan Clarke	
		Samll Smith	

this is a True Copy attest Richard Towne Towne Clerk

Topsfield March ye 1st 1755 Recived of Mr John Balch one
of the former Constables for sd Town the Sum of Six Pounds
Eleven Shillings and four pence in full of his Collection Recd by
me Thos Baker Town Treasurer

this is a True Copy of the above sd Receipt

attest Richd Towne Town Clerk

Boston Sept 22 1753 Recd of Mr Stephen Perkins Constab
of Topsfield the Sum of fourteen pounds four Shillings Ten
pence in full J Gray Treasr
£14 4 10

Topsfield Febueary 20th 1755 Then Receued of Mr Stephen
Perkins one of the former Constables Twenty one pound five
Shillings in full of what was Due to the Town of his Collection
Received by me Thomas Baker Town Treasr

these Two above sd Receipts are True Copys

attest Richard Towne Town Clr

Essex ss To Jabes Towne one of the Constables of the Town
of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby
Required fourthwith To Worn all the freeholders and other In-
habatants that are Quallified by Law for voting in the South
Ward in Said Town to Conven and meet Together att the Meet-
ing House in Said Town on Tuesday the fourth Day of March
Next at Nine of the Clock in the forenoon

1 To Choose Select men a Town Clerk Constables and all
other Town officers as the Law Directs

2 To Choose Jurymen for march Court according to venire

3 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your
Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town at time
and place above mentioned

Topsfield Febry 20th 1755

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averell	
Dan Clarke	
Samll Smith	

This is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

proper Returns Being made on Both Warrants of worning
the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield on march the forth
Day anno Domini 1755

1 Capt Benja Town was Chosen modrator for the said meeting Voted

2 Nathll Averell was Chosen and Sworn Clerk for said Day Voted

3 The Town Voted to adjurn said meeting to Tuesday the 18th Day of March Instant att nine of the Clock before noon and sd meeting was adjurned accordingly Voted
per Nathll Averell Clark for sd Day

Benja Towne modratour for said meeting

The Said Meeting being adjurned to the Eighteenth Day of the Said mounth and then meet and proseaded as followeth

1 Capt Towne Mr Dan Clarke Mr Elijah Porter Mr Samll Smith Mr Jacob Averell are Chosen Selectmen for the year Insuing Voted

2 Richard Towne is Chosen Town Clerk for the year Insuing Voted

3 Nathan Hood and Zacchus Gould are Chosen Constables for the year Insuing Voted

4 Capt Thomas Baker is Chosen Town Treasurer for the year Insuing Voted

5 Leut Thomas Gould Daniel Bixby Thomas Perkins Jur are Chosen Tything men for the year Insuing Voted

6 Joseph Gould John Balch Benja Towne Jur Elisha Commings and David Perkins are Chosen Survoyers of ye Heighways for the year Insuing Voted

7 Joshua Towne Jur is Chosen Sealer of Lather ye year Insuing Voted

8 Leut Luke Averell Elisha Willdes and William Perkins are Chosen fence vewers for the year Insuing Voted

9 Qur Dan Clarke and thomas perkins are Chosen Hogreaves for the year Insuing Voted

10 Deacon George Bixby is Chosen Grand Jury man for the year Insuing Voted

11 John Willdes and Auther Brown are Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls next to be holden att Ipswich

12 The Town allowed to mr Ephraim Willdes four Shillings for mending the Parsonage fence in the year 1754

Voted £0 4s 0d

13 the Town allowed to Qur Dan Clarke Sixteen Shillings for his son Daniel Sweeping the meeting House the year past

Voted £0 16s 0d

14 the Town allowed to Leut Luke Auerell four Shillings for 52 foot of white oak Plank

Voted 0 4 0

the Officers Chosen att the above Said meeting to which an oath is Required by Law was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their offices Emiedly after the meeting was over Excepting Elisha Commings Joshua Towne Jur William Perkins Qur Dan Clarke and Thomas Perkins. Zacchus Gould took his oath on March 21st 1755 before Joseph Bowditch Esqr Mr William Perkins Mr Dan Clarke and Mr Elisha Commings was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their offices before the Selectmen April 29th 1755

Deacon George Bixby was Sworn to the Office of Clark of the propriters of the Plainfield medow so Called and John Cree and Samll Towne Jur was sworn hawards of the above sd medow Before the Selectmen of Topsfield

Essex ss To Nathan Hood one of ye Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his majestes Name you are required fourthwith to worn all the freeholders and Other Inhabatants in the North Ward in Said Town that are qualified by Law for Voting to Conven and meet Together att the meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the Twentyeth Day of may next att one of the Clock after noon

1 To Chuse a representative according to precept

2 To See if the Town will repair the meeting house by new Covering the Whole or any part of ye outside in the Same Shape that it is in Now and make new Winders

3 to See if the Town will Do any thing further towards making a Setteltment with the Revd Mr Emerson respecting his Salary

4 To See how much money the Town will raise to Defray the Charge of mending the heighways this present year

5 to See if the Town Will Except of the Selectmen Recking with the Town Treasurer for the year past

6 To See if the Town will Chouse a Comtee to Supply the Town with a School Master this Present year

7 to See if the Town will Chouse a Comtee to View the Parsonage fence and make up any part of the Towns fence that is Deficient according to the Towns vote

8 To See if the Town will grant the Prayer of Sam^l Phippens petition for his Seting up a house on Sum part of the Towns Land

9 to See What the Town will allow the Selectmen for making the rates for mending the heigh ways

10 to See if ye Town will Let Swine go att Large as the Law Directs

11 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of ye Selectmen of Said Town att Time and place above mentioned

Topsfield April 29th 1755

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Clarke	
Dan Clarke	
Sam ^l Smith	
Elijah porter	

This is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Cr

Proper Returns Being made of Worning the Inhabatants of the Town on Both Warrants the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield May 20th 1755

1 Deacon George Bixby is Chosen Modrator for the meeting
Voted

2 the Town agreed to raise forty Pounds of money to mend the Heighways With In the Same manner and form as thay workd att the Heighways Last Year
Voted

3 The Town Excepted of the Selectmens Rickoning with the Town Treasurer and their remains in Said Treasurers hand not ordred out one Hundred Pounds one Shilling and Two fardens
Voted

4 Mr Jeremiah Averell Mr David Perkins Mr David Balch Juner are Chosen a Com^{tee} to Provide the Town with a School Master this present year
Voted

5 Mr Jacob Averell Mr John Bordman are Chosen to make up the Deficient fence that is the Towns part about the Parsonage
Voted

6 the Town Gave Mr Samll Phippen Libity to Set up a house on that Part of the Towns Land where Mr John Prichard Barn Stood and a Garden Spot Duering the Time of his and his wife Life

7 the Town Gave Libity for Swine to Go att Large Provided theay are yocked and ringed as the Law Directs
Voted

Essex ss To Zaccheus Gould one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting in his Majesties name you are hearby required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are qualified for voting in the South Ward In sd Town to Conven together att the meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday ye Sixteenth of this Instant September att Two of ye Clock afternoon

1 To Chouse Jury men to Serve at Newbury Court

2 To Se if the Town will give the revd Mr Emerson Sixty Six pounds thirteen Shillings and four pence annually for his Salary During the Time of his ministry in Said Town from the Second Day of Sept a. d. 1755 in Lieu of all former Contracts he giving a receipt in full for the time past when he has received the Last half years Pay which is now Due to him

3 To See how much money the Town will raise to Defray the Town Charges this present year

4 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield Sept 2nd 1755

Jacob Averel	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Dan Clark	
Elijah Porter	
Sam ^l Smith	

this is a true Copy of the warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clerk

proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield Sept 16th 1755

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen Modrator for this meeting

2 Mr Thomas Perkins Mr Aaron Hovey are Chosen by Drawing out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at Newbury Court next Insuing

3 the Town agreed by a Vote to Defire the porseeding about Mr Emerson Salary Becase of the Smallness of the number of the people

4 the Town agreed to raise Sixty Pounds to Defray the Charge the Year Insuing Voted

5 The Town allowed to Mr Stephen Perkins former Constable Eleven Shillings and Three pence it being an abatement of Sam^l Potters rate for the year 1752 Voted

6 the Town allowed to Mr Israel Averel Twelve Shillings for Stones to mend the Heighways With in the year 1754 Voted

7 Mr Elijah Porter is Chosen to Serve on the Grand Jury att the Next Supr Court to be holden att Salem Voted

8 Capt Thos Baker and Leut Thos Gould are Drawn out of the Box to Serve one the Jury of Tryalls att the Next Supr Court to be holden at Salem

9 the Town allowed to Samuel Tapley one pound Eighteen

Shillings and Eight Pence for Keeping Eliesebeth Dwinell Six Months and Twelve Days vis from ye forth of march Last to the Sixteenth Day of Sept att 1s 4d pr week £1 18s 8d

Essex ss To Nathan Hood one of the Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting in his Majesties name you are hereby required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of the town yt are qualified by Law for Voting in the North Ward in said Town on Munday the Twenty Second Day of Sept Instant att one of the Clock in the afternoon

1 To See if the Town will Give the revd mr John Emerson Sixty Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings & four Pence for his Salary annuly from ye Second Day of Sept A D 1755 Dureing ye time of his ministry in sd Town in Lieu of all former Contracts he givening a receipt in full when he has recd his Last half years pay which is Now Due to him

2 To See if the Town Will Chouse one or more agents to go to Newbury Court in behalf of the Town respecting ye Return of a Jury that has Laid out a heighway from Wenham a Cross the river to the County Road in Said Town

3 To See if the Town will Chouse a Comtee to Inform ye Revd Mr Emerson yt the Personage fence is don and See if he will Except of it and take the whole Care of it for the futer

4 to See if the Town will allow Sam^{ll} Tapley one Shilling and four pence pr week for takeing Care of Elisabeth Dwinell so long as she remains unable to take Care of her self

5 To allow bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of sd town att time and place above mentoned

Topsfield Sept 16th 1755

Jacob Averel	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Dan Clarke	
Elijah Porter	
Sam ^{ll} Smith	

this is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

proper returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield Sept 22rd 1755

1 Mr Elijah porter is Chosen Modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 the Town made Choise of Deacon George Bixby and Mr Stephen Perkins and att the adjurnment of said meeting unto

the 29th of this Instant Sept made Choise of Capt Benja Towne and Mr John Balch agents them or Either Two of them to petition to the Next General Sessions of the Peace to be holden att Newbury in Behalf of the Town Respecting the return of a heigh-way Lately Laid out by a Jury from wenham a Cross the river in Topsfield to the County road in Said Town Voted

att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield hield by an adjurnment from the Twenty Second Day of Sept to the Twenty ninth of the Same Mounth and then met and proseeded as followeth

the Revd Mr Emerson personally appearing in the above sd meeting and Excepted of the Towns Part of the Personage fence and Saith he will take Care of said fence so long as he shall continue his ministry amongst us in Said Town

2 The Town allowed to Samuel Tapley one Shilling and four pence per week for takeing Care of Elisabeth Dwinell So Long as She remains unable to take Care of her Self Voted

3 the Town allowed to Mr Thomas Symonds and Mr John Bordman Schooll Com^{tee} Ten Pounds for the School Master Keeping School five months Last year att £2 0 0 pr month

Voted £10 0s 0d

Received 5 Shillings in full for my Salary to March 2d 1755
as witness my Hand John Emerson Clerk

Topsfield October 7th 1755

Essex ss To Nathan Hood one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties name you are required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Qualified by Law for voting in the North Ward in Said Town to Conven together att the meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Seventh Day of October Next at Three of the Clock after noon

1 To agree and make a finall Setteltment with the Revd Mr John Emerson Respecting his Sallary

2 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town at Time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield Sept 29th 1755

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averel	
Dan Clarke	
Samll Smith	
Elijah Porter	

a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clr

Proper returns being made of warning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield

At a Lawful Town Meeting in Topsfield October 7th 1755

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen Modratorer for this meeting

Voted

2 Voted that the Town Gives the Revd Mr John Emerson Sixty Pounds Lawfull money as money now Stands for his Sallary annually from the Second Day of September A D 1755 to Support him in the work of the Ministry So Long as he shall Continue in the Ministry amongst us in Lieu of the Hundred Pounds that was Voted to him in the former Contract when he Settled in said Town and in Lieu of all other Towns votes of money to him

I acepet of the above Written Sum of Sixty Pounds Money as money now Stands for my Annual Salary as to money part and Shall upon the Receipt of Said Sum yearly give a Discharge in full as wittness my hand
John Emerson Clerk

Topsfield October 7th 1755

3 The Town allowed to Capt Benja Towne and Mr Stephen Perkins Twelve Shillings and Eight Pence for what [they] paid to an attorney they being agents for the Town at Newbury Court Respecting a Heighway Lately Layd out

Voted

4 the Town allowed to mr Daniel Bixby for Two Plank for the River Bridge four Shillings and Eight Pence

Voted

5 The Town allowed to Capt Benja Towne and Mr Stephen Perkins Sixteen Shillings for their Time and Expense

Voted

Essex ss To Nathan Hood one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Qualified by Law for Voting in the North Ward in Said Town to Conven together att the meeting House in said Town on Tuesday the ninth of December Instant att one of the Clock afternoon

1 To Chouse one or more agents to go to the Court of Genl Sessions of the Place to be holden att Salem In December Instant in behalf of the Town and to Indeavour to provent the Said Court accepting of the return that a Jury has made of their Laying out a Heigh way from Wenham a Cross the river to the County Road in Said Topsfield or to act any thing Else

respecting Said Heighway that the Town shall think proper

2 To Consider and act any thing that the Town shall think proper respecting the meeting House Either for repairing of It or Consult and agree upon what measuers to Com into for Building a new meeting House

3 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town att Time and Place above mentioned

December 1st 1755

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averell	
Dan Clarke	
Elijah Porter	
Samll Smith	

this is a True Copy of ye warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

proper returns Being made of worning the Inhabatants of Said Town

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield December 9th 1755

1 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 the Town voted that Capt Benja Towne Missirs George Bixby Elijah Porter and Stephen Perkins be agents in Behalf of the Town or any Two of them to go to the Court of Gen^{el} Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Salem in Decr Instant and Endeavouer to prevent the Court accepting of the Jurys return of their Laying out a Heighway from Wenham a Cross the River to the County road in Topsfield

2 The Town Unanimusly voted that they ware against the Jurys return being accepted of their Laying out a heighway from Wenham a Cross ye river to the Country Road in Topsfield and that thay were Willing the Court Should Lay Out a way from Wenham to Come into the Country road on the Back of Mr Matthew Peabodys house or Near to Wheal Brook to go through Convenient gates or an open way as the Court Shall think Best

3 Jacob Averell Juner is Chosen to put up Bords in the Broken Winders in the meeting house

Voted

4 the Town allowed to Mr John Bordman & Mr Thos Symonds School Com^{tee} for Bording the School Master five months Last year as followeth vis

To one month att ye Revd Mr Emerson

£0 6s 0d

to one month att Mr Sam ^l Bradstreet	0 6 0
To one month at Mr Benja Byxbys	0 6 0
to Two months att Mr John Bordman	0 12 0
5 the Town allowed to Mr Jacob Averell and Mr John Bordman for mending the Parsonage Wall	0 13 0

Essex ss To Zaccheus Gould one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Qualified by Law for Voting in the South Ward in Said Town to Conven together att the meeting House In Said Town on Tuesday the Second Day of March next att nine of the Clock in the forenoon

1 To Chouse Selectmen Constables a Town Clerk and all other Town Officers for the year Insuing as the Law Directs

2 To See If the Town Will accept of a return made by the Selectmen of their Laying out a Private Town way through part of Mr Nathaniel Bordmans Land Don att the Desier of Mr Elisha Commings

3 To See if the Town Will Chouse a man or men and by the Consent of the Revnd Mr Emerson to made a Gap and hang a Cart gate In the Parsonage wall near the Gravel pit for the benefit of the Town to Git Gravel

4 To See if the Town will accept of the Selectmen Rickoning With the Town Treasurer

5 For the Town to proceed and act in any further method Respecting the Heighway that is Laid out from Wenham a Cross the River to the County Road in Topsfield that they shall think Proper and also to se if the Town Will Lay out a Heighway from the County road in said Town to Wenham Line Whare the Town shall think proper

6 To Chouse Jurymen for March Court according to precept

7 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town att Time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield February 23d 1756

Jacob Avirel	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Dan Clarke	
Elijah Porter	
Samuel Smith	

this is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clr

their Being Proper returns being made of on both warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March 2nd 1756

1 Deacon George Bixby is Chosen modrator for the said meeting Voted

2 Cor^{nt} Matthew Peabody Capt Thomas Baker Leut Nath^l Porter Mr John Gould and Mr David Balch are Chosen Selectmen for the year Insuing Voted

3 Mr Stephen Forster Mr David Towne are Chosen Constables fr the year Insuing Voted

4 Richard Towne is Chosen Town Clerk for the year Insuing Voted

5 Richd Towne is Chosen Town Treasurer for the year Insuing Voted

6 Leut Luke Averell Mr Elijah Porter Mr John Balch are Chosen Tything men for the year Insuing Voted

7 Deacon George Bixby Mr John Bordman Mr Thos Perkins Junr Mr Simon Gould and Mr Jeremiah Towne are Chosen Serveyors of the Heighways the year Insuing Voted

8 Joshua Towne is Chosen Sealer of Lather for the year Insuing Voted

9 Mr Joseph Andrew Mr John Perkins Junr Mr John Willdes are Chosen fence vewers for the year Insuing Voted

10 Mr Jacob Dwinell Mr Elisha Commings are Chosen Hogreaves for the year Insuing Voted

11 the Town allowed to Mr Philip Neland what he was rated for his head in the Province rate the year past Voted

12 the Town Excepted of the Selectmen Laying out a Heighway for Mr Elisha Commings through Mr Nathl Bordman Land Voted

13 the Town advisd the Selectmen to Lay out a heighway from the Contrey road Begining at Mr Balchs Gate through the Pastors in or near the old Road to Wenham Line Voted

14 Capt Benja Towne is Chosen Grand Jury man for the year Insuing Voted

15 Mr Stephen Perkins and Mr David Balch Junr are Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls next to be Holden at Ipswich

16 Mr Jacob Averel is Chosen to hang a Cart Gate in the Personage Wall near the Gravel Pit for the Bennefit of the Town Voted

17 the Town allowed to Samll Tapley for Keeping his mother

Elisabeth Dwinell from the Sixteenth of Sept Last to the Sixteenth of february Last one Shilling and four pence pr week Voted

18 the Town allowed to Joseph Gould for Two Small Sticks of Timber about Seven foot Long to mend a Bridge with Voted

19 the Town allowed to Mrssrs David Perkins Jeremiah Avirell and David Balch Jur School Com^{tee} for Six months Schooling fourteen pounds Eight Shillings Voted £14 8s 0d

20 the Town allowed to Mr Elisha Commings for one Hundred feet of plank for to mend Bridges with £0 9 7

The Several Officers Chosen att the a foresaid meeting Which the Law requiers to be Sworn all Took the oath Belonging to there respective offices on the afforesaid Second and third Day of Said March

We the Subscribers Being Desired by Mr Elisha Commings of Topsfield to Lay out a Privite Town way from the Gate Between Mr Nathanel Bordmans House and Barn a Cross the Brook to the Gate in the road that Leads to the Meeting House in sd Town and being mett on the Spot we proceeded and Layd out Said way as followeth viz

Begining att an appletree about Eight foot Distant to the South ward from the Gate first mentioned from thence North-erly Two Rods in width Distance to the Southward from Said Bordmans House and field fence as it now Stands to the Bridge over Said Brook from thence more Westerly Eight foot Distance to the Southward from the Trodden way as it now Goes to be the Boundary Line on the Surtherly Side of Said way to the Gate Last mentioned above Said road to Extend Two rods in width to the Northward from Said Southerly Boundary Line &c Layd out by the Subscribers this 29nd Day of December A : D : 1755

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jacob Averel	
Dan Clarke	
Elijah Porter	
Samuel Smith	

this is a True Copy of the Return of the Selectmen Laying out a way
attest Richd Towne Town Cl^r

Essex ss To David Towne one of the Constables for the Town of Topsfield Greeting you are hearby required in his Majesties Name forthwith to Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Quallified by Law for voating in the South Ward in Said Town To Conven and meet Together att the Meeting

House in Said Town on Wednesday the Twenty forth Day of March Instant att Two of the Clock in the after noon on sd Day

1 To See if the Town Will Chooose a Com^{tee} to Supply the Town With a School for the year Insuing

2 To See if the Town will Come into any measuers that the reconing of the former Selectmen With the former Town Treasurer may Be Excepted and to Except Theirot

3 To See if the Town Will Buld a School house or houses as thay Shall thing most Convenient for the Town and if any part of Said Town has Been att Charge in Building alriley that it may all be the Proper Charge of Said Town and for the Town to Grant Land to Set Said house or houses on

4 To See if the Town will reconsider the Lateest Vote Passed In the Town for the Laying out of a heighway on the South Side of the River and advise the Selectmen to Lay out a private way where the Town shall think proper

5 to See if the Town will Chooose a man or men to go to Court to Inform as to the said way

6 To See how much money the Town Will Raise to mend the Heighways the year Insuing

7 to Se if the Town Will Give in their voats for a County register

8 To Se if the Town Will give Leave for ye Swine to go att Large the year Insuing

9 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this Warrant With your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen att or before sd Day as you will answer the Contrary

Dated Topsfield March 16th 1756

David Balch	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Matthew Peabody	
Nath ^l Porter	
John Gould	
Thos Baker	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

Proper Returns being made of Worning the Inhabatants of the Town on both warrants the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March 24th 1756

1 Capt Thos Baker is Chosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 the Town Excepted of the Selectmen Rickoning with the Town Treasurer and their Remains in sd Treasurs hands 78 17

3 1/2 Exclusive of an order Entred in the Select Mens Book of Two pounds Eighteen Shillings Voted

3 the Town Voted that the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants that Should See Cause to build a School house Should have A Grant of Land to Set up Said house on near the meeting house so as not to Inchoach upon the Trayning field

4 The Town Voted to Reconsider that Vote Respecting the Heighway Which the Town advisd the Selectmen to Lay out from Mr Balchs Gate Through the Pastors to Wenham Line

5 the Town advisd the Selectmen to Lay out a Private way from the Contery Road on the South Side of the River Begining at Mr Balchs Gate and So in or near the ould road Through the Pastors So to Wenham Line Voted

6 Capt Thomas Baker and Capt Tobijah Perkins are Chosen agents to Inform the Court of what the Town advisd the Selectmen Respecting a Priviteway to be Layd out from Mr Balchs Gate to Wenham Line Voted

7 the Town agreed to Raise forty pounds to mend the Heighway With the year Insuing in the Same manner and form as they work the Last year Voted

8 the Town agreed that Swine Should go at Large Provided they are yoaked and Ringed as the Law Directs the year Insuing Voted

9 the Town allowed to Mr Dan Clarke Sixteen Shillings for Sweeping the meeting house the year past Voted

10 the Town allowed to Capt Benja Towne and Dcn George Bixby five shillings and four pence for attending the Court att Salem respecting the Heigh way Voted

11 the Town allowed to Mr Elijah Porter for money Expended Thirteen Shillings Which he paid to an attorney Voted

12 The Town abated James Dwinell Rates What he was rated In Mr Elisha Townes former Constable rate for his head Voted

13 the Town abated Enoch Perkins for what he was rated for his head the Last year Voted

14 the Town allowed to Capt Thomas Baker Seven Shillings and four Pence for Timber to mend a bridge with 0 7 4 Voted

Essex ss To Stephen Forster or David Towne one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield you are hearby Required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield Qualified for voting as the Law Directs in the North ward to assemble and meet together att the meeting

house in sd Town on Tuesday the Eighteenth Day of may Instant att Two of the Clock in ye afternoon on Said Day

1 To Elect and Depute one man to Serve them and Serve att the Great and Generall Court the year Insuing

2 To See if the Town will Chouse a Comtee to Serve them in makeing the meeting house in Said Town more Comfortable for the People or to Repair Said house or to be in preparation to Build a meeting house in Said Town

3 To See if the Town Will Choose a Comtee to Suply the Town With a Grammer School master to Serve the Town In Teaching thier Children the year Insuing and to find houses where the School may be Kept from time to time

4 to See if the Town will have and Except the report of the agent Chose to Inform the Court in march of a way advised to be Layd out on the South Side of the River in Topsfield and to See if the Town will act any thing further as to Said way or the way over the River

Hearof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen at or Before Said Day as you will answer the Contrary

Dated Topsfield May the Sixth Ad 1756

David Balch	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Matthew Peabody	
Nathll Porter Jur	
John Gould	
Thos Baker	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

Proper Returns Being made of Worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followed

1 At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield May 18th 1756 the Town made Choise of Mr Elijah Porter to Resepent the Town att the Great and Generall Court to be holden att Boston the year Insuing

and their Being other Bisness to be Dun

2 Deacon George Bixby is Chosen Modrator for this meeting
Voted

3 Mr Nathan Hood Mr John Hood and Mr Jacob Averel Jur are Chosen a Comtee to Stop the Leaks In the Meeting House and to make It more Comfortable for the People
Voted

4 the Town made Choise of the Selectmen as a Comtee to provide the Town with a Grammer School Master the year Insuing
Voted

Essex ss To Stephen Forster one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield you are hearby required to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield Qualified for Voating as the Law Directs to meet and assemble att the meeting house in sd Topsfield on Tuesday the Eight Day of June next att four of the Clock in the afternoon on Said Day

1 To Choose one man or Two or more as the Town Shall See fit as an agent or agents to Go to the next Court of Generall Sessions of the Peace for the County of Essex to be holden att Salem to See if the Town Can have any Relif as to the Heighway Laid out over the River and that according to the Instructions that may at the Said Meeting be Given him or them by the Town then Convend

2 To allow Bills of Charge

3 to See if the Town will answer the Petition of Jacob Kimball and Grant it

and make Return of the Warrant with your Doings to one of the Selectmen at or before Said Day

Topsfield May ye 27th 1756

Nathll Porter Jur	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Matthew Peabody	
John Gould	
Thos Baker	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

A Proper Return Being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the Meeting followeth

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield June 8th 1756

1 Deacon George Bixby was Chosen modrator for sd meeting
Voted

2 Messrs Elijah Porter Matthew Peabody and Stephen Perkins are Chosen agents to Go to the Next Court of Generall Sessions of the Peace to be holden att Salem for the County of Essex respecting a Heighway Lately Layd out by a Jury from Wenham Line a Cross the River in Topsfield to the Cuntry Road

3 the Town Voated to Leve the affare Respecting to the Heighway to the agents Chosen to use their Best Indevers in takeing Counsel and Perpare a Petition to the Next General Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Salem

4 the Town agreed to Sell Mr Jacob Kimball a Peace of Common Land Laying against his Shoop Between Mr Emerson Stone wall and the Country Road of forty foot in Length and Twenty Six foot in Breadth
Voted

5 Capt Nathl Averell is Chosen to agree with Mr Jacob Kimball upon a Prize of the above Said Land and Give a Deed of it to the Said Kimball and Recd the money for the use of the Town Voted

Essex ss To David Towne one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting you are required forthwith to warn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of Said Town in the South Ward in sd Town Quallified for Voting as the Law Derects to meet and assemble att the Meeting House in sd Towne on Thirsday the Ninth Day of September Instent at Two of the Clock in the afternoon on sd Day

1 To Choose Jury men to Serve att Newbury Court

2 to See what money the Town will Raise to Defray Town Charges the year Insuing

3 To Chouse a man or men to Go to Newbury Court to make answer to the Presentment of the way on the South Side of the River and also to See what the Town will Do Concerning said way

4 to See if the Town will Choose a man to mend the Pound

5 to See if the Town will hear and answer the petition of John Lefaver and Grant it

6 To allow Bills of Charge

and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen as you will answer the Contrary on sd Day

Dated Topsfield September the first 1756

David Balch	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Matthew Peabody	
Nathl Porter Jur	
John Gould	
Thomas Baker	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

Proper returns being made on Both warrants of warning the Inhabatants of the Town the meeting followeth

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield September 9th 1756

1 Capt Benja Towne was Chosen modrator for this meeting Voted

2 Messrs John Bradstrett and John Gould is Chosen to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the next Court of Generall Sessions to be holden at Newbury

3 the Town agreed that the Selectmen shall Lay a Tax upon

the Inhabatants of the Town of Eighty pound Including Mr Emersons Sallary to Defray the Charges of the Town the year Insuing Voted

4 Mr John Gould and Leut Nathll Porter are Chosen agents to Go to the next Court of Generall Sessions to be holden att Newbury to answer to a presentment Respecting a Heighway on the South Side of the River Voted

5 the Town made Choise of the Selectmen to agree with a man to mend the Pound Voted

6 The Town agreed to Grant and Sell a peace of Land to Mr John Lefavour Laying by Mr Emersons Stone wall on the Surtherly and fore Side of Mr Jacob Kimball's house of Sixty feet in Langth and Ten feet in wedth att the Rate of forty pounds Lawfull money per acre Voted

Essex ss To Stephen Forster one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting in his majestes name you are hear-by Required forth with to Notefy and worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield in the north ward Qualified for voating as the Law Directs to assembl and meet att the meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Twenty Eight Day of September Instant att Two of the Clock in the afternoon on sd Day

1 To Choose Jury men to Serve att Salem Court according to warrant

2 To act any thing further that the Town shall think Proper To have the high way Discontinued that is Laid out over the River Vis the way Lately Laid out by a Jury Voted

3 To See if the Town will abate the Rate Laid on Doct Joseph Bradstreet in the year 1755 when he was a keeping School for the Town

4 To See if the Town will Choose a man to measur off the Land Lately Voated to Mr John Lefavour and take the money he is to Pay for Said Land and Return it into the Town Treas-urey for the use of the Town and also to hear a Petition that may be perfered by the sd John Levefour and act upon it

5 To hear a Petition that may be perfered by Mr Jacob Kimball and answer it

6 To See if the Town will Do any thing that the order that the Gentn Selectmen for the year 1755 Drawed on the Town Treasurer for pay for their makeing the highway Rate may be Settled

7 To allow bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen on sd 28th Day of Sept as you will answer the Contrery

Topsfield September 21st 1756

David Balch	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Matthew Peabody	
Nath ^l Porter Junr	
John Gould	
Thos Baker	

this is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Cl^r

Proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield on Both warrants the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield September 28th 1756

1 Mr Elijah Porter is Chosen modrator for this meeting Voted

2 Co^r Matthew Peabody is Chosen to serve on the Grand Jury at the next Court To be holden att Salem Voted

3 Capt Tobijah Perkins and Deacon Daniel Gould are Chosen to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the next Court to be holden att Salem

4 Leut Nathl Porter Mr John Gould and Leut Luke Averell are Chosen a Comtee to make application to the Next Court of Generall Sessions of the Peace to be holden att Newbury to have the Highway Discontinuered that Has been Lately Laid out by a Jury a Cross the River in Topsfield Voted

5 the Town abated Doctr Joseph Bradstreets Rate what he was Rated in the year 1755 Voted

6 the Town allowed to Mr Jacob Averell Eight Shillings for makeing a Gate and hanging it against the parsonage Voted

7 the Town allowed to Mr Jacob Averell Two Shillings for a Stick of Timber to mend the Bridge with Voted

8 the Town allowed to Mr Jeremiah Averell and Qur David Balch School Comtee Two pounds Eight Shillings for the School master Keeping School one month Voted

October 13th 1756 There is taken up in Topsfield a Stray horse by Joseph Brown of about Thirteen hands high a Bay Colour with a Dark Coloured main and Tail but has neither Brand nor Ear mark and pris^d at Three Pounds Six Shillings and Eight pence

Boston June 30th 1756 Recd of Mr Zaccheus Gould Constable of Topsfield forty Eight Pounds Six Shillings and Ten pence in full

48: 6: 10

H Gray treas^r

Recd of Mr Zaccheus Gould one of the Constables for the Town of Topsfield for the year 1755 Three pounds Which he was to Collect for the County Tax Janr 14th 1756 3 0 0
Daniel Appleton County Tresr

Essex ss To Stephen Foster one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hearby in his Majesties Name Required forthwith to warn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of the sd Town of Topsfield Qualified for Voting as the Law Directs to meet at the meeting House in sd Town on Tuesday the Ninth Day of November next att Two of the Clock in the afternoon on sd Day

1 To Hear the Report of the Agents that went to Newbury Court to answer a Persentment as to the highway

2 To act any thing the Town shall think proper Relating To a fine Laid on the Town

3 To See if the Town will act any thing further as to the way Laid over the River by a Jury the Last year and act what they Shall Think is for the Best

4 To See if the Town Will think it proper to Raise any more money for the Defraying of the Town Charges Under the Present Circumstances of Things

5 To See if the Town Will Choose a man to Take Care of the french People in Town

6 To allow Bills of Charge

and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen on or before sd Day as you will answer the Contrary

Topsfield October 28th 1756

Matthew Peabody	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Gould	
Nathll Porter Jur	
Thos Baker	

this is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns of Worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield made on Both Warrants the meeting followeth

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield November 9th 1756

1 Capt Thos Baker is Chosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 Leut Nathll Porter Mr John Gould and Leut Luke Averell are Chosen Agents to make application to the next Court of Generall Sessions to be holden att Salem to Have the Highway

Discontinued that was Lately Laid out by a Jury a Cross the River in Topsfield Voted

3 Missrs Aaron Easty David Balch Ephram Willdes John Perkins Luke Averell and Jacob Averell are Chosen a Committee to Discourse With the Peteeitioners that Petitioned for the way over the River and See if they will Joyn with the Town in making application to the Court of Generall Sessions of the peace to be holden att Salem in December next In order to have the fine they Laid on the Town att Newbury Court abated Provided the Town makes the Way Good that was Presented Voted

and then the town voated to adjourn the meeting to Thursday the Eighteenth Day of this Instant November att Two of the Clock in the afternoon on sd Day and the modrator adjurned sd meeting accordingly

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield held by an adjurnment from the ninth Day of November 1756 to the Eightteenth Day of the Same month and then met

1 The Town voated that the agents Chosen to make application to the Court to have the heigh way Discontinued are also to make application for a Jury to alter the way Laid over the River So far as from Benja Towne Juner

2 The Town Voted to Raise Twenty Pounds Lawfull money in addition for the Defraying Town Charges

3 Jacob Robinson is Chosen to take Care of the French people in the Town according to the act of the prouvince Voted

4 the Town allowed to the Widow Abial Tapley for Keeping her mother Elisabeth Dwinell from the Third Day of march to the Eighteenth Day of November 37 weeks at 1s 4d per week

Essex ss To David Towne one of the Constables of the Towne of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby forthwith Required to worn all the Freeholders and other Inhabatants Qualified for Voating as the Law Directs of the South ward in the Town of Topsfield to meet and assemble att the meeting House In Said Town on Tuesday the first Day of febreary next att Two of the Clock in the afternoon op sd Day

1 To See if the Town Will Chuse a Comtee and Impower them to Use all Lawfull Indevers to have that Heighway Lately Laid out by a Jury from Topsfield to Wenham to be altered or Discontinuered

and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen on or before the Said Day as you will answer the Contrary

Dated Topsfield January 20th 1757

Matthew Peabody	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Balch	
Nathl Porter Jr	
John Gould	
Thos Baker	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield on both Warrants the meeting followeth At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield February ye 1st 1757

1 Capt Benja Towne Was Chosen Moderator Voted

2 Samll Smith was Chosen and Sworne Clerk for said meeting Voted

3 Leut Luke Averell Leut Nathl Porter and Mr John Gould Was Chosen a Comtee and Impowered to use all Lawfull Endeavours to have that Highway Lately Laid out by a Jury from Topsfield to Wenham to be altered or Discontinued Voted

this is a True Record of the above Said meeting as it Stands Recorded
attest Richd Towne Town Clerk

Essex ss To Stephen Forster one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hearby in his Majesties Name you are Required foreth with to worn all the Freeholders and other Inhabatants of Said Town of Topsfield Qualifield for Voting as the Law Directs in the North ward to assemble and meet att the meeting house in sd Town on Tuesday the first Day of March next att Eight of the Clock in the morning

1 To Choose Selectmen Constables Town Clerk and other Town Offcers as the Law Directs

2 to See if the Town Will Except of Severeal Private Ways Laid out in the Town by the Selectmen the Last year or null and make them void

3 To See if the Town Will Excuse Nathl Porter Junr and John Gould from Going to the Court of Generel Sessions of the peace to git the way Laid over the River altered or Discontinued and Chouse others in there Room

4 To allow Bills of Charge

5 To See if the Town will Except of the Selectmen Rick[en]ing with The Town Treasurer

6 for the town to Select out of a List perpared for Jures as the Law Directs

and make return of this Warrant With your Doings as you will answer the Contrary to one of the Selectmen on or before Said Day

Dated Topsfield Febreary the 15th 1757

David Balch	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Matthew Peabody	
Nathl Porter Jur	
John Gould	
Thos Baker	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of
the Town of Topsfield on Both Warrants the meeting followeth
Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield March 1st 1757

1 Deacon George Bixby is Chosen modrator for this meet-
ing Voted

2 Mr Samll Smith Capt Benja Towne Mr John Gould Corⁿ
Matthew Peabody and Mr Elijah Porter are Chosen Selectmen
for the year Insuing Voted

3 Messrs Thomas Symonds Thomas Dwinell are Chosen Con-
stables the year Insuing Voted

4 Richd Towne is Chosen Town Clerk for the year Insuing
Voted

and then it was put to Voat to See if the Town would adjurn
Said meeting Voted

then the Modrator adjurnd said meeting from the first Day of
March to the Eight Day of Said mounth to one of the Clock in
the after noon on sd Day

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield held by adjurnment
from the first Day of March to the Eight of the Said mounth and
then met and proseeded as followeth

1 Messrs Jacob Averell Benja Bixby Joseph Gould are Chosen
Tything men for the year Insuing Voted

2 Messrs Solomon Dodge Jacob Robinson Joseph Hovey Mat-
thew Peabody Aaron Easty are Chosen Sevoyers of the Heigh-
ways the year Insuing Voted

3 Richard Towne is Chosen Town Treasurer the year Insuing
Voted

4 Messrs Samuel Bradstrett Ephram Willdes Robert Perkins
are Chosen fence vewers for the year Insuing Voted

5 Messrs Dan Clark and Thomas Perkins are Chosen hog
Reaves the year Insuing Voted

6 It was Put to Vote to See if the Town Would Except of a
Private way Laid out by the Selectmen from the Cuntry Road
Begining at Mr Balches Gate Through the pasters and So to
wenham Line and it passed in the Negative

7 It was put to Vote to See if the Town Would Exepte of a Private way Laid out by the Sselectmen from Mr Thomas Dwinells Through Archalues Rea and Jacob Dwinells Land to the Contry Road and it passed in ye Negative

8 Mr Solomon Dodge is Chosen to Joyn with Leut Luke Averell in Going to the Court Respecting the Highway and Porseed according to the Voat pased the first Day of ffebruary 1757

9 The Town Exepte of the Selectmen Rickoning with the Town Treasurer and there Remain in sd Treasurer hand not ordered out Eighty Six pounds nineteen shillings Voted

10 Ens Solomon Gould is Chosen Grand Jury man for the year Insuing Voted

11 Daniel Luke and Jabez Town are Drawn out of the Box to Serve one the Jury of Tryalls att the next Court to be holden at Ipswich

12 The Town allowed to Joseph Hovey what Jonathan Redington was Rated in the sd Hovey List Voted

13 the Town allowed to Nathan Hood and Jacob Averell Juner Three Shillings and four pence for reparing the meeting house Voted

14 the Town abated Deacon Hovey head to the Province Rate Voted

15 the Town abated Joseph Townes head Tax in the Town Rate Voted

16 the Town allowed to Leut Nathll Porter one pound Ten Shillings for his atendance at Court Voted

17 the Town allowed to Jacob Averell Junr Sixteen Shillings for Sweeping the meeting House the year past Voted

18 the Town allowed to Cor Mathew Peabody and Mr Stephen Perkins for Going to Salem Court and what Mr Cant had was £1 10s 8d

19 The Town allowed to Mr John Gould for money Expended about the Highway is one Pound Two Shillings and one pence 1 2 1

The Sevrall Persons Chosen into offices on the first and Eight Day of march to Which an oath Doth Belong was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of there offices on the Eight Day of march afforesd Before the Selectmen Excepting Capt Benja Towne and Mr Aaron Estey

We the Subscribers Being appointed by the Selectmen of the Towns of Wenham & Topsfield to Prambleate on the Line & Renew the Bounds Between the sd Towne have met for that Purpose on this 25 Day of april 1757 and Dun it in manner follow-

ing vis Begining at the Stump Northward of Theophilus Fisk Barn
the North East Corner Bounds of Danvers from thence to a
Stake & Stones on the West Side of the Road Leading to Bunkers
meadow from thence to a heap of Stones Where formerly Stood
a Plump of mapels from thence to a heap of Stones on the
West Side of Robinson Jr Land from thence To a heap of Stones
by Pigdons meadow and so to the River

Matthew Peabody	} for Topsfield	Thos Tarbox	} for Wenham
Aaron Easty Jr		Samll Goodridge	
Michael Dwinell		Jeremiah Dodge	
		Josiah Ober	
		Edmond Kimbell	

this is a True Copy

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

To Thomas Symonds one of the Constables of the Town of
Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby
required forthwith to wron all the freeholders and other Inhab-
atants In the North ward in sd Town that are Qualified for
Voting to Conven and meet Together att the Meeting House in
said Town on Thursday the nineteenth Day of May Instant att
Two of the Clock afternoon

1 To See if the Town will Choose a man to Represent Said
Town att ye Generall Court the year Insuing

2 To See if the Town Will agree and Come into Sum proper
method to build a new Meeting House or to repair the old meet-
ing house

3 for the Town to Chouse a Comtee to Supply the Town With
a School Master the year Insuing

4 To See how much money the Town will raise to Defray the
Charges of mending the High ways this present Year

5 To See if the Town will agree to Let Swine Go at Large
the year Insuing agreeable to Law

6 To See if the Town will Choose a man or men to Supply
the Town with Stocks as the Law Directs

7 To See if the Town Will Grant the petition of Benja Towne
Jur

8 To See if the Town will Give the widow Abiel Tapley the
Sum of four pounds a year for Takeing Care of and providing
for her mother Elizabeth Dwinell

9 To allow Bills of Charge

hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your
Doing to one or more of the Selectmen att Time and Place
above mentioned

Topsfield May 11th 1757

Matthew Peabody	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Elijah Porter	
John Gould	
Samll Smith	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Cl^r

Proper returns being made on both warrants of warning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield May 19th 1757

1 the Town made Choise of Mr John Gould to Represent the Town att the great and Generall Court to be holden att Boston the Year Insuing

and their Being other Bisness to be Don

2 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen modrator for said meeting
Voted

3 Deacon George Bixby Capt Tobijah Perkins and Mr Nathan Hood are Chosen a Comtee to Serch the Meeting House and See if it were Worth Repering
Voted

4 Messers Abraham Hobs John Perkins Jur and Elisha Com-mings are Chosen a School Comtee for the year Insuing
Voted

5 the Town Voted to raise Twenty Pounds to Defray the Charges of working att the Highways the year Insuing

6 the Town agreed that Swine Should go at Large the year Insuing Provided thay are as the Law Directs
Voted

7 the Town allowed to the widow Abiel Tapley after the Rate of four pounds pr year for takeing Care of her mother Elizabeth Dwinell be it for a Longer or Shorter Time
Voted

8 the Town Voted that Mr Elisha Willdes Should Put the Irons on the Stocks and Bring them to the meeting House
Voted

9 the Town allowed to mr Benja Ierland five Shillings and one peny it being an abatement of part of his Rates
Voted

10 the Town allowed to mr Zacchues Gould nine pence it Being a batement of Part of James Nickels Rates
Voted

11 the Town allowed to Mr Asa Bradstreet Thirteen Pounds Sixteen Shillings for Keeping School five months and Three weeks in the year 1756
Voted £13 16s 0d

12 The Town allowed to Mr Joseph Bradstreet Two pounds & Eight Shillings for one months Keeping School in the year 1756
£2 8s 0d

13 the Town allowed to the widow Abiall Tapley Two pounds for Keeping her mother Elizabeth Dwinell from the Eighteenth Day of Novr 1756 to the Eighteenth Day of May 1757
Voted

Topsfield March 1st 1757 Recd of Mr Richard Towne Town Treasurer the Sum of Twenty Three Pounds Twelve Shillings money for my Salary to September 2nd 1756 by me John Emerson Clerk

this is a True Copey of Mr Emerson Receipt

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Boston April 18 1757

Recd of Mr Stephen Foster Const^l of Topsfield for 1756 Three pounds one Shilling in full by the hand of Mr Jonathan Foster

H Gray treas^r

Recd of Mr Stephen Foster Two Pounds Lawfull Money In full for what he was to Collect of the Town of Topsfield County tax for the year 1756

Ipswich May 28th 1757 Daniel Appleton County Treasurer

these two Receipts above are True Copeys

attest Richard Towne Town Clr

Topsfield June ye first Day 1757 We the Subscribers Haveing Been this Day Notefied by Mr Israel Averell to Devide the fence Laying between the Said Averell & Mr David Balch of Said Topsfield have Devided as followeth to Vis begining att Cornⁿ Matthew Peabodys Paster—Runing Weastwardly Mr Isreal Averell begins first Nine Rods 72 feet and half Mr David Balch next 11 Rods 2 feet and half Mr Israel Averell next 3 Rods 15 feet and nine Inches Next Mr David Balch Runing Still Weastwardly to the westwardly Corner of the Said Averell Paster then Runing Northerly 32 Rods 13 feet 3 Inches to a Cartain Divisionall Bound—then Said Averell Runing from thence 29 Rods fourteen feet and Six Inches to a Bound on the Surtherly Side of the Bank of the River then Mr David Balch Begining att the Last Bound—mentioned and runing into the River 2 Rods and 2 feet from thence sd Averell Runing 1 Rod and Six feet to the Bank on the North Side of the River

Ephram Willds } fence vewers

Robert Perkins } of Topsfield

This is a True Copey

attest Richard Towne Town Clr

Essex ss To Thomas Symonds one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties you are Required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Quallified by Law for Voting in the North ward in sd Town to Conven Together att the meeting House in Said town on Tues-

day the Twenty Eight day of June Inst^t att Two of the Cloock after noon

1 To Consider and Come into Som Proper Measuers for taking Care of the French family in Said Town and to act any thing the Town Shall think proper respecting sd family Being provided for

2 To See if the Town will axcept of the Reporte of the Comtee that was Chosen to Examine wether the meeting House will admit of being Repared

3 to See if the Town will Greant the Petition of Jacob Averell Junr

4 To See if the Town will Reconsider their vote of Raiseing Twenty pounds to Defray the Charges of mending the highways this year or otherwise to See if the Town will raise more money for mending said ways

Hearof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town att time and place above mentioned

Matthew Peabody	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Gould	
Elijah Porter	
Samll Smtih	

this is a True Copy of ye warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Cl^r

Proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

At a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield June 28th 1757

1 Mr Elijah Porter is Chosen Modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 the Town Excepted of the Report of the Comtee Chosen Vis Capt Tobijah Perkins Deacon George Bixby and Mr Nathan Hood to Sarch the meeting House and that thare Report is that the meeting house is not worth Reparing

3 the Town Granted Liberty to Mr Jacob Averell Juner to Sett up a Shoop of Eighteen foot in Length and fifteen foot in width on the Towns Land where Mr Isaac Fitts Shoop Stood

Voted

Essex ss To Thomas Dwinell one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties name you are hearby Required forth With to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Qualified by Law for Voting in the South Ward In Said Town to assembl and Conven together att

the meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Sixth Day of September next att Two of the Clock after noon

1 To Chouse Jury men for to Serve att Newbury Court according to the Venire

2 To See how much money the Town will Raise to Defray The Town Charges this present year

3 To See if the Town will Chouse a Comtee to take Care and Stop the leakages of the meeting House

4 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Select men of Said Town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield August 25th 1757

Matthew Peabody	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Elijah Porter	
Samll Smith	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clr

proper returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of sd Town of Topsfield one Both Worrants the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield Sept 6th 1757

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen modrator for this meeting

Voted

2 Mesiers John Balch Elieser Lake Jur are Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the next Infearer Court to be holden att Newbury

3 the Town agreed to raise one hundred pounds to Defray the Charges of the Town ye year Insuing Including Mr Emerson Sallary in Said Sum

Voted

4 The Town allowed to Leut Luke Averell five Shillings and four pence for plank

Voted

5 the Town allowed to Leut Luke Averell Eight Shillings for 114 feet of plank to Lay one the River Bridge

Voted

6 the Town allowed Mr Israel Averell Eight Shillings for one Tun of Timber

£0 8s 0d Voted

7 the Town allowed Cor Peabody four Shillings for half a Tun of Timber

£0 4 0 Voted

8 the Town made Choise of Mr Solomon Dodge to Serve on the Grand Jury att the next Supr Court to be holden att Salem

9 Mesers Jacob Averell and Joseph Andrew are Chosen to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the next Supearer Court to be holden att Salem

Essex ss To Thomas Dwinell one of the Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting In His Majesties Name you are hearby required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and others Inhabatants in the South ward in Said Town that are Qualified for Voteing to Conven and meet Together att the meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Twenty Second Day of November Instant att Two of ye Clock after noon

1 To Chouse a man or men to answer the presentment for the Towns not haveing a School

2 To See what measuers the Town Will Come into for to have the french family in Said Town Supported under their Dificult Surcomstantes

3 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your Doing to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town att Time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield Novr 9th 1757

Matthew Peabody	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Gould	
Elijah Porter	
Samll Smith	

a true Copy of ye Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns being made on both Warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield Novr 22nd 1757

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen Moderator for sd meeting Voted

2 The Town made Choise of Deacon Bixby and Mr Elijah Porter to go to the next Court of Generall Sessions of the peace to be holden att Salem to answer a presentment for want of a School Voted

3 the Town allowed to the Selectmen four pounds four Shillings and four pence for Two mounths Schooling and Bording the Schol master Voted

4 the Town allowed to Mr Simon Gould for one Hundred and Thirteen feet of white oak pland att the Rate of four pounds per Thousand Voted

5 the Town allowed to Mr Stephen Foster five Shillings for Seventy Two feet of white oak plank Voted

Topsfield December 14th 1757 then Rec^d of Mr Zaceheus Gould former Constable Two pounds Three Shillings & Eight Pence in full of his Collection

Rec^d by me Richard Towne Town Treasurer

Wee the Subscribers Being Authoised and Impowered to Pram-
belate ye Line and Bounds Between the Town of Topsfield and
the Town of Danvers have mett this 13th Day of December
1757 and Renewed sd Bounds or Line as followeth Vis begining
att a White oak Stump with Stones about it Standing about one
Rod and one half Northeastly from Theophelius Fisks Barn
Near to Wenham Casuaway from thence to a Black or rad oak
tree Stump with a heap of Stones Standing in Daniel Gotts Or-
chard from thence to a heap of Stones near Thos Dwinells paster
From thence to a heap of Stones near Nicholes Brook So on the
Same Course to Said Brook near the Low mills Commonly Called
Porters Saw Mill

John Preston	} Danvers	Matthew Peabody	} Topsfield
Arch Deal		Benja Dwinell	
Samull putnam			

We the Subscribers being a Comtee appointed by the Towns of
Ipswich and Topsfield to Prambulate the Lines Between Ips-
wich and Topsfield met this fifteenth Day of Decr 1757 and
Pramblated Said Line and Began by the River at the mouth of
Houletts Brook and So by sd Brook to a Stake and heap of
Stones in Nealands meadow and from thence to a heap of Stones
on a hill with a Stake marked 1754 and from thence to a Stake
Standing in a Grate Spring in Conants meadow from thence to a
heap of Stones Being about Eight rods Westward from the Brook
near Stephen fosters House from Thence on a Strait Line runing
by Burnams Land to a Black oak tree att the Botom of the hill
being the Corner of perkines Land So on to the pond and So on
a Strait Line to an appel tree and Stones about it the Corner
bound Between Ipswich Topsfield and Boxford

Elijah porter	} Comtee for	David Low	} Comtee for
Abraham Hobs		Jeremiah perkines	
	} Topsfield		} Ipswich

We the Subscribers being a Comtee apointed by the Towns of
Topsfield & Boxford to pramblate the Line Between sd Towns
met this fifteenth Day of December 1757 and pramlated sd Line
& Began att an appel tree with Stones about it in Asa parleys
field from thence to a Stake and heap of Stones at the Southerly
Corner of Bakers farme (So Called) thence to whare the water
runs Through ye Dam near Simon Goulds house (Called androus
Dam) thence to a Stake & heap of Stones by fishing Brook on
the Easterly Side of a rever late runing into Said Brook thence
as Said Brook runs to Ipswich river so Call^d thence up sd River
to middelton Line

Aaron Wood	} Comtee for Boxford	Elijah Porter	} Comtee for Topsfield
Asa Parley		Abraham Hobbs	
Paul Prichard			

Middleton December 13th 1757 We the Subscribers Being a Comtee appointed to Renew the bounds Between Topsfield and Middleton have porseeded as followeth Begining at a heap of stones in Nickels brook above the Sawmill and so runing as the Brook Runs the most Northerly part thereof to a Bunch of ashes Standing at the mouth of the Said brook where It Empits it Self into the River

Comtee for { Joseph Towne	Comtee for { Andrew Fuller
Topsfield { Samll Commings	Middelton { Zarobabel Peabody
	{ David Kinney

the Three aforesd Copes are True Copeys
attest Richard Towne Town Clr

Essex ss To Thomas Dwinell one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required to Worn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabatants that are Qualified by Law for Voting in the South ward in Said Town to Conven and meet together at the meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Seventh of march Next at nine of the Clock in the fore noon

1 To Choose Selectmen Constables a Town Clark and all other Town Officers as the Law Directs for the year Insuing

2 To See if the Town will accept of the Selectmen Rickoning With the Town Treasurer

3 to Choose Jurymen for next march Court according to the Venire

4 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield Febr 14th 1758

Matthew Peabody	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Gould	
Elijah Porter	
Samll Smith	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

There Being Proper Returns made on Both warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March 7th 1758

1 Leut Samll Smith was Chosen Modreator for this meeting
Voted

2 Leut Nathll Porter Missrs John Gould David Balch Daniel
Byxby David Perkins was Chosen Selectmen for the year
Insuing Voted

3 Mr Abraham Hobbs Mr Elijah Porter ware Chosen Con-
stables for the year Insuing Voted

4 Richard Towne is Chosen Town Clerk for the year Insuing
Voted

5 Richard Town was Chosen Town Treasurer for the year
Insuing Voted

6 Messrs Simon Gould Stephen perkins Nathan Willdes was
Chosen Tything men for the year Insuing Voted

7 Missrs Joseph Andrew Elieser Lake Junr Joseph Towne
Nathan Hood and Archalues Rea ware Chosen Sevoyers of the
Highway the year Insuing Voted

8 Mr David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of Lather ye year
Insuing Voted

9 Leut Luke Averell and Mr Solomon Dodge and Auther
Brown ware Chosen fence Vewers for the year Insuing Voted

10 Messrs Thomas Symonds and John Bathalder ware Chosen
Hog Reaves for the year Insuing Voted

11 the Town Excepted of the Selectmens Rickoning with The
Town Treasurer and their Remains in sd Treasurers hand not
ordred out ninty Three pounds Three Shillings and Two pence

12 Mr John Bathelder was Chosen Grand Jury for the year
Insuing Voted

13 Messrs Robert Perkins and Samll Commings was Drawn
Out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the next
Inferer Court to be holden att Ipswich

14 the Town abated Mr Richd Cree Rate what he was rated
to the Town Which is five Shillings 0 5 0 Voted

15 The Town abated to Samll Phippan what he was Rated in
Constable foster List which is 0 14 0 Voted

16 It is to be under[stood] that Mr Abraham Hobbs is to serve
as Constable in the rum and Stead of Mr John Bradstreet so Voted
the Several Persons which was Chosen into Office att the
above sd meeting to whom an Oath is Required was Sworn to
the faithfull Discharge of there Office on the Seventh Eleventh
and Sixteenth Days of the Said mounth Excepting Messrs John
Gould and Elijah Porter Stephen Perkins

Mr John Gould Mr Dan Clarke and Mr Stephen Perkins took

the Oaths to Each of their Respective Offices to which they were Chosen into on the 24th Day of March 1758

Essex ss To Abraham Hobbs Constable in the Town of Topsfield Greeting in his Majesties Name you are hereby Required to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabatants that are Qualified by Law for voting in Said Town to Conven and meet Together at the Meeting House in Said Town on Monday the Twenty Seventh Day of March Instant att one of the Clock in the afternoon

1 To See if the Town will Choose a man to Serve Constable in the rom of Mr Elijah Porter

2 to See if the Town will do any thing Concerning the Town Stock of ammunitiion

3 To See if the Town Will Chouse a man to take Care of the french Famely that is in Town

4 To See if Swine Shall go at Large the year Insuing

5 To See if the Town Will Choose a School Comtee to find a School marster for Said Town According to Law

6 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield March 20th 1758

Nathll Porter	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Bixby	
David Perkins	
David Balch Jur	

This is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

A proper Return Being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Said Town the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March 27th 1758

1 Leut Samll Smith was Chosen modrator for sd meeting
Voted

2 the Town made Choise and Excepted of Mr Dan Clark to Serve as Constable in the Rom and in Stead of Mr Elijah Porter for the year Insuing
Voted

3 the Town made Choise of the Selectmen to provide the Town with a School master according to Law the year Insuing
Voted

4 The Town made Choise of the Selectmen to take Care and Provide a Town Stock what is Nead full for the Town
Voted

5 the Town agreed that Swine Should Go att Large ye year
Insuing Voted

6 the Town abated to Mr Benja Ierland for his head what
he was Rated in Constable Towne Lists being £0 14s 0d

7 the Town abated to Mr Benja Ierland for his head what
he was rated in Constable Dwinells Listes Being 0 6 4

8 the Town allowed to the former Selectmen for providing
the Town With a School four munths Eight Pounds Ten
Shillings and Eight Pence Voted

9 the Town allowed to Mr Elijah Porter Eight Shillings for
going to Salem Court Last December to git the fine of[f] which
we were persented for want of a School Voted 0 8 0

10 the Town abated to William Gallap what he was rated in
Constable Towne List Being 0 5 4

11 the Town allowed to Mr Joseph Hovey for 55 feet of and
one Stick of Timber Voted 0 4 0

12 the Town allowed to Mr Solomon Dodge for Serves Done
for the Town Respecting the high way and money Ex-
pended 5 3 3

13 The Town allowed to Leut Luke Averell Seven pounds
Sixteen Shillings and 4 pence for Going to the Courts about the
Highway and Extrodneey Expençe 7 16 4

Essex ss To Quar Dan Clarke one of the Constables of the
Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are
hearby required to worne all the freeholders and other Inhaba-
tants that are quallified By Law for voting in the South ward
in Said Town to Conven and meet Together att the meeting
House in Said Town on Wednesday the Twenty forth day of
may Instant att one of the Clock in the afternoon

1 To Chouse a meet person to Represent the Town att the
Great and General Court according to precipt

2 to See what money the Town will Raise to mend the high
way this present year

3 To See whether the Town are Willing to Receve a Cartain
Number of famelyes Belonging to Ipswich with there Lands as
Town agreeable to a plan to be produced

4 to See if the Town will Do any thing Concerning the fine
that was taken from us about the new way from our Town to
Wenham

5 to See if the Town will abate Philip Nelands pole rate to
the province

6 to allow Bills of Chargs

Hearof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town att Time and Place above mentioned

Topsfield May 16th 1758

Nathl Porter	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Gould	
Daniel Byxby	
David Perkins	
David Balch Jur	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

Proper Returns Being of worning the Inhabatants of ye Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield may 24th 1758

Mr John Gould is Chosen to Repesent the Town att the Great and Generall Court to be holden att Boston the year Insuing and there Being other Bisness to Be Dun

2 Deacon George Bixby is Chosen modrator for ye sd meeting

3 The Town agreed to Raise forty Pounds of money to mend the high ways with the year Insuing Voted

4 the Town abated Mr Philip Neland province Rate for his pole for the year 1757 which is fifteen shillings 0 15 0

5 the Town allowed to Mr John Bradstrett what he was rated for a Peace of medow in the year 1757 which he has sould Voted

6 The Town allowed to Mr Ebensier Averell four Shillings and four pence for a pare of oxen which he was rated for which he had not 0 4 4

7 The Town abated Mr Jacob Perkins Province Rate for the year 1757 which is fifteen Shillings 0 15 0 Voted

8 the Town abated Mr Eliezer Goulds Town and province Rate for his head for the year 1757 Voted

9 the Town Manifested by a Vote that they were willing that a Cartain Number of Families Belonging to Ipswich with there Lands Should be Laid to the Town Topsfield as Township agreeable to a Plan produred

Boston June 12 1758

Recd of Mr Thos Dwinell Constable of Topsfield for 1757 Twenty five pounds Six Shillings and four pence In full By the hand of Mr John Gould H Gray Tres

this is a True Copy of the Receipt

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

Essex ss To Quer Dan Clarke one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby Required to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants yt are Quallified by Law for Voting in the South ward in Said Town to Conven Together att the meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the forth Day of July next att Two of ye Clock in the after noon

1 To hear What our Ipswich Neighbours hath sett there hands unto in order for there being Laid of to our Town

2 to See if the Town will Choose a man or men to Joyn with our Ipswich Neighbours who have Signified there Desiers to be Laid to our Town That is in petitioning to the Generall Court that they with there Estates may be Laid of to our Town to Joyn with us in Township

3 To See if the Town Will Go into any Method of preparation for Bulding a new meeting house

4 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield June 20th 1758

John Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Bixby	
David Perkins	
David Balch Jr	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

Proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield July 4th 1758

1 Capt Benja Towne was Chosen modrator for sd meeting

Voted

2 it was Put Voat to See if The Town Would Chouse a man or men to Joyn with our Ipswich Neighbours and it past in the negative

3 The Town voted to perpear Stuf to Build a meeting House

Essex ss To Quertm Dan Clarke one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Quallified by Law for Voting in the South Ward in Said Town to Conven and meet together att the meeting House in sd Town on Tuesday the nineteenth Day of September Next att Two of the Clock in the afternoon

1 To Choose Jurymen for Newbury Court according to Warrant as the Law Directs

2 To See how much Money the Town Will Raise this present year to Defray the Charges of sd Town

3 To hear a petition from Capt Joseph Cummings & Others of our Ipswich Neighbours in order for there being annexed to our Town with there Estates that shall be mentioned within a plan that shall be then Sett forth In there petition then to be hard and then for the Town in there Wisdom to act what they shall think proper in Said affare

4 To See if the Town will allow Benja Towne Junr any Damage that was Dun him by reason of the way Laid out over his Land to Wenham

5 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield August 28th 1758

John Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Bixby	
David Balch Jur	

this is a True Copey of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

Proper returns Being made of worrning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield Sept 19th 1758

1 Leut Samll Smith was Chosen modrator for sd meeting

Voted

2 Jeremiah Towne and Stephen Foster was Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the Next Court of Generall Sessions to be holden att Newbury

3 The Town agreed to Raise one Hundred and forty pounds to Defray the Charges of the Said Town the year Insuing Voted

4 The Town agrees to Receive Capt Joseph Cummings Leut John Lampson Leut Thos Cummings Messrs Israel Clarke Jabez Ross Joseph Cummings Junr and John Lampson 3rd Inhabatants of the Town of Ipswich with there families and all the Lands mentioned in a plan produced for that purpose to be annexed to the Town of Topsfield To be part and parcel thereof and to Do Duty and Receive previledges in it as the now Inhabatancs of Said Town Do

Voted

5 the Town agrees to Joyne with the above named Capt Joseph Cummings and Others above mentioned in pertitioning

to the Generall Court in order to there Being with there Estates annexed to the Town of Topsfield (Viz) Provided the Town of Ipswich shall Refuse to Sett them off Voted

6 it was put to vote to See if the Town would allow Benja Towne Jur any thing for Damage Dun by a Road Layd through his Land to Wenham and it past in the Negetive

7 the Town allowed to the Selectmen Six pounds Eight Shillings for to pay for Three mounths Schooling the Summer past £6 8s 0d

8 the Town made Choise of Missrs Matthew Peabody to serve on the Grand Jury and Nathan Hood Elisha Willdes to Serve on ye Jury of Tryalls att the Next Supr Court to be holden att Salem

Essex ss To Mr Dan Clarke one of the Const of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required to worn all the free holders and other Inhabatants that are quallified by Law for voting in the Said Town to Conven together att the meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the Ninth Day of January Instant att one of the Clock in the afternoon

1 To See if the Town will Build a new meeting House in sd Town and Set it where the old one now Stands

2 To See if the Town Will be Looking out and Gathering together the Timber for a New Meeting house

3 To See if the Town Would Buy any Bords Clabords Shingles or Nails for a new Meeting house

4 To See if the Town will Raise or allow any Money and How much in Gitting and Gathering together the above perticulars for Said new meeting House

5 To See if the Town Will Chouse a Comtee for the above sd Bisness

6 To See What Bigness the Town Would Build sd new meeting house

7 To Give the above sd Comtee that may be Chosen Such Instructions as the Town Shall think proper in the above said affare

8 To allow Bill of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town at Time and place above mentioned

Topsfield January 2nd 1759

Daniel Bixby	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Perkins	
David Balch Jr	

This is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

proper Return Being made of worning the Inhabatants of
The Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield January 9th 1759

1 Deacon George Bixby was Chosen modrator for said
meeting Voted

2 The Town agreed to Build a New Meeting House and Set
it Where the old meeting house Now Stands Voted

3 the Town agreed to Be Looking out for Timber and
Gitting It Together to Build the meeting house Voted

4 The Town agreed to Git Bords Clabords Shingles and nails
for the meeting House Voted

5 The Town agreed to Choose a Comtee to take Care and
See to the Building the New meeting house Voted

6 Deacon Bixby Messrs Thos Symonds Jacob Averill Nathan
Hood and Stephen Perkins are Chosen a Commitee for the
above said Bisness Voted

7 the Town agreed that the New meeting House Should be
fifty four foot in Length and forty Two foot in Bredth

8 the Town voted that the above sd Commitee should go to
a Carpenter or Carpenteres to Know what thay would ask for
the frame of the above sd meeting House they finding the
Timber and what they would alow for our old meeting house
towards their pay

9 the Town allowed to Mr Robert Perkins Thirteen Shillings
and Eight pence for one hundred and Eight feet of white oak
plank to mend the River Bridge with £0 13 8 Voted

10 the Town allowed to Mr Israel Averell 0 1 6 Voted

Essex ss To Mr Dan Clarke one of ye Constables of the
Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are
hearby forthwith Required to worne all the freeholders and
other Inhabatants that are Qualified by Law for Voting in Said
Town to Conven together att the meeting house in Said Town
on Tuesday the Thirteenth Day of Febuery Instant att
Twelve of the Clock in the Day

1 To See if the Town will agree to Reconsider the whole of
the Votes that was passed att the Town Meeting on the ninth
Day of January 1759 Relating to ye Building a new meeting
House in Said Town and in Case the Town Shall agree to
Reconsider said votes Then

2 To See if the Town will agree to Build a new meeting house

3 For the Town to agree how Large and in what forme they will Build Said new meeting house

4 To See in what Place the Town Will agree to Sett Said New Meeting House

5 To See how much money the Town Will agree to Raise To Defray the Charges of Building sd new meeting house

6 To See if the Town will agree to Chouse a Comtee to Look out and Gether together near where sd meeting is to stand and on the Towns Cost Enough Suitable timber for sd frame of said house

7 To See if the Town Will agree that sd Comtee Shall first git all the Timber that they Can of the Inhabatants of sd Town for the frame of said House

8 For the town to agree what they will allow per Ton for Timber Ready Cutt and hauled to the Spot for the frame of said house

9 To See if the Town will agree that sd Comtee shall Treat With a Suitable man or men that is master of such work and See how Cheap they Can git Such man or men after the Timber for the frame is Got together to take the old meeting House as it now Stands and Buld and finish Said New meeting house by the Greate and find all the Reast of the Stuff &c and make Report to the Town att the annual Town meeting in march next

10 for the Town to agree Upon any Other method or Com into any further measueres in order to Build and finish a New meeting house in Said Town that they shall think proper

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of ye Selectmen of sd Town att Time and place afore mentioned as you will answer the Conterary att the perral of the Law

Topsfield Febuary 6th 1759

Daniel Bixby	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Perkins	
David Balch Jr	

this is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clr

A proper Return being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield Febry 13th 1759

1 Leut Smith was Chosen Modrator for said meeting Voted

2 The Town agreed to reconsider all the Voates that was passed on the ninth Day of January Last Respecting the New Meeting House Voted

- 3 the Town agrees to Build a new meeting house Voted
- 4 The Town agrees that the new meeting house should be fifty four foot in Leingth and forty Two foot in Bredth and Twenty Six foot Stud Voted
- 5 the Town agrees to have a perpornable Steeple to the said New meeting house Voted
- 6 the Town agrees that the new meeting house shall stand where the old meeting house now Stands Voted
- 7 The town agrees that the Selectmen Shall Lay a Tax upon the Inhabatants of the Town of One Hundred and fifty pounds to be Laid out in Building the meeting house Voted
- 8 Deacon Bixby Leut Smith and Mr Nathan Hood are Chosen a Comtee to Look out and gather together near Where sd meeting House is to Stand and on the Towns Cost Enought Suitable Timber for the frame of sd house Voted
- 9 the Town agrees that the sd Comtee shall git what timber they Can of the Town Inhabitants Voted
- 10 the Town agrees to Build the meeting house this present year Voted
- 11 The Town agrees that the sd Comtee shall Git the Timber for the Meeting House as Cheap as they Can and where they Can Voted
- 12 the town agrees that the sd Comtee shall Treat with a man or men that are Masters of such work and see what they will Build the meeting house for and the sd Comtee make Return att the next annual meeting in march Voted
- 13 Capt John Bordman is Chosen Grand Jury man for the year Insuing Voted
- 14 Capt Nath^l Averell and Mr Jacob Dwinell are Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury att the next Infearer Court to be holden att Ipswich

Essex ss To Dan Clarke one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Qualified by Law for Voting in the South Ward in Said Town to Conven and meet together att the Meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Sixth Day of March Next att nine of the Clock In the morning

1 To Chuse Selectmen Constables a Town Clerk and all other Town Officers for the year Insuing as the Law Directs

2 To See if the Town Will Except of the Selectmen Rickoning With the Town Treasurer

3 For the Town to bring in there Votes for a County Treasurer

4 To See if the Town Will Except of the Return of the Comtee that was Chosen to get Together the Timber for the new Meeting House

5 To See What further Measurers the Town will Come into for Building and finishing Said New Meeting House

6 To See if the Town Will Reconsider the Vote that was passed att the Last Town Meeting for to Build the meeting House this present Year

7 To See if the Town Will Grant the petition of Joseph Brown of Boxford and Others

8 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town att time & place above mentioned as you will answer your Neglect att the parriel of the Law

Topsfield Feby 26th 1759

John Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Bixby	
David Perkins	
David Balch Jur	

this is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns Being made on both Worrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield March 6th 1759

1 Leut Samll Smith was Chosen Modrator for sd meeting

Voted

Messrs John Gould David Perkins David Balch Jur Daniel Bixby Stephen Perkins are Chosen Selectmen for the year Insuing

Voted

2 Mr Joseph Gould and Mr Jeremiah Averill are Chosen Constables for the year Insuing

Voted

3 Richard Towne was Chosen Town Clerk for ye year Insuing

Voted

Mr Stephen foster is Chosen Town Treasurer for the year Insuing

4 Mr John Perkins Mr Joseph Andrew and Mr Thomas Symonds are Chosen Tything men for the year Insuing

Voted

5 Messrs Thomas Perkins Jur Paletiah Commings Jabez Towne Simon Gould and John Peabody are Chosen Servoyers of ye Heighways for the year Insuing

Voted

6 Mr David Perkins is Chosen Sealer of Lather for ye year
Insuing Voted

7 Messrs Thomas Baker Jur and Zacchues Gould are Chosen
fence Viewers for the year Insuing Voted

8 Messrs Matthew Peabody and Dan Clarke are Chosen Hog-
reaves for the year Insuing Voted

9 the Town Excepted of the Selectmen Rickoning with the
Town Treasurer and there Remains in Said Treasurer hand not
ordered out one Hundred Sixty Seven pounds Sixteen Shillings
Voted

10 the Town Excepted of the Comtee Return So fare as they
have porseeded in perparing Timber for the new meeting House
Voted

11 It was put to Vote to see if the Town Would adjurn the
said meeting accordingly to the Thirteenth Day of March In-
stant to one of ye Clock afternoon Voted

Att a legal Town meeting in Topsfield heald by an adjurn-
ment from the Sixth Day of March Instant to the Thirteenth
Day of the Said month and then meet and porseeded as followeth

1 The Town agrees that the sd Comtee Shall Still proseed in
prepering Stuff for the New Meeting House according to the
Instruction the Town Shall Give Voted

2 Capt Benja Towne Mr Elijah Porter is Chosen to Joyn with
the Former Comtee in Perparing Stuff for the New Meeting
House Voted

3 It was Put to Vote to See if the Town Would reconsider the
Vote past Respecting Building the meeting House this year
and it pased in the Negetive

4 the Town agrees that ye Comtee or the mager Part of them
shall proceed in the affare and git ye Timber of sd meeting House
hew^d and fram^d and shall also procuer boards Clabbords and
all other meterials Nessessary and build and finish said meet-
ing House all Except the inside worke Voted

5 Voted that the Selectmen shall Give orders to the Town
Treasurer to pay to sd Comtee from Time to time Such Sum and
Sums of money as shall be nessessray to hire Carpenters and
purchess Stuff and other meterialeas that may be wanted in
building and finishing said New Meeting House

6 The Town allowed to Mr Dan Clarke for warning John
Grant out of Town and what he paid to Joseph Bowditch
Esqr £0 2 10

7 the Town allowed to the Selectmen for the School marsters
Serves and Board five months and one week att £2 2s 8d per
month £11 4s 0d

8 the Town allowed to Elisha Towne for warning John Lefaver and his famiely out of Town £0 17 4

9 the Town allowed to the widow Lydia Brown What her Husbands head was Rated to the province in the year 1758 Voted the Town abated John Jacobs Town rate in Thos Dwinell List

10 the town abated John Bakers Jur Rate Voted

11 the Town Mannifasted by a Voat that they ware Willing to Except of Mr Joseph Brown of Boxford and others they and there Land agreeable to there petition that thay Laid Before the Town Voted

the Several Persons Chosen Into Offices on the Sixth Day of March 1759 were all Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of there Respective Offices as the Law Directs Excepting Messrs Stephen foster John Peabody and Thomas Perkins Junr

March 23rd 1759 John Peabody was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of his Offices Mr John Gould was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of offices on ye 24 Day of May 1759

Jabez Town was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of his office May 29 1759

Thomas Perkins Juner was Sworn to on the 16th Day of June to the faithfull Discharge of his offices to which he was Chosen into in March 1759

Essex ss To Mr Jeremiah Averell one of the Constables of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Quallified by Law for Voting in the North ward in Said Town to Conven together att the Meeting House in said Town on Tuesday the Twenty Seventh Day of March Instent att one of the Clock in the afternoon

1 To See how much Money the Town will raise to mend the High ways this Present year

2 to See if the Town will Choose a School Comtee to provide a good School for the Town the year Insuing

3 To See if the Town will Choose a man to take Care of the french famely that is in our Town

4 to See if the Town will Let Swine go att Large this present year as the Law Directs

5 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield March 20th 1759

Daniel Bixby	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Perkins	
David Balch Jur	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Town Town Clr

proper Returns Being made on Both Warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield March 27th 1759

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen Modrator for said meeting
Voted

2 The Town agreed to Raise Twenty Pounds money to Defray the Charges of mending the Highways this present year Voted

3 it was put to vote to see if the Town would Chouse a man to take Care of the french famely and it past in the Negative

4 The Town agreed that Swine should go att Large provided they are as the Law Directs Voted

5 the Town allowed to Mr Nathan Willdes five shillings and four pence it being an abatement of his Rates in Constable Symonds List Voted

6 the Town abated Mr Asa Bradstreet Town and Province Rates in Constable Symonds List for the year 1757 Voted

7 The Town agreed to pay to Mr Jacob Dwinell for about Three Rods of Land in Langth and Two in Breadth and making the fence on Both Sides Equivelent to what the Honourable Comtee allowed him for the other part of the Highway which goes through his Land it being a Mistake In Said Comtee and Capt Averell in not Setting it of when they went Lower upon the said Dwinells Land Voted

8 the Town abated Mr James Malcom Rates Both Town and province in Mr Thos Symonds List Voted

Essex ss To Joseph Gould one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Qullified by Law for voting in the South ward in sd Town to Conven & meet Together att the meeting House in sd Town on Thirsday the Twenty forth Day of May Instant att one of the Clock in the afternoon

1 To Choose a man to Represent the Town att the Great & Generall Court according to precept

2 To See If the Town will Choose a man or men to Joyn in petitioning to the Great and Generall Court with Capt Joseph

Cummings & others of the Town of Ipswich Respecting there being Seet of from the Town of Ipswich and anaxed to the Town of Topsfield

3 to See if the Town will agree to take Down the old meeting House

4 For the Town to Choose a Comtee and Give them Instructions Relating to the Taking Down the old meeting House

5 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield May 15th 1759

John Gould	}	Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Bixby		
Stephen Perkins		
David Balch Jur		

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns being made on Both warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield May 24th 1759

1 It was put to Voat to See if the Town would Choose a man to Represent the Town att the Great and General Court for the year Insuing and it pasd in the Negative Voted

2 and there being other Bisness to be Dun Leut Smith was Chosen modrator for sd meeting Voted

3 the Town Made Choise of Mr John Gould to assest in the Towns Behalf Capt Joseph Commings and others of the Inhabatants of Ipswich in preparing a petition to the Grate and General Court to be anaxed to the Town of Topsfield Voted

4 the Town agrees to take Down the old meeting house Voted

5 Capt John Bordman Capt Tobijah Perkins Mr Ephraim Willdes Mr Solomon Dodges and Ensn Solomon Gould are Chosen a Comtee to take Down the old meeting house Voted

6 the Town agrees that sd Comtee shall Take Down sd old meeting house att such Time as the Comtee Chosen to build ye new meeting house shall think proper and take Care of all the valluable Stufe that is not wanted for said new meeting house and the Glass &c Till further order from sd Town Voted

7 the Town abated Mr Ierlands Rates which he is Rated in Mr Dan Clarke List for takeing Care of a Child that was Born att his House of the wid^e Luce Dwinell Voted

8 the Town abated the wid^o Oysters Rates in Mr Thos Dwinells List which is Sixteen Shillings and four pence old Tenor

Voted

9 The Town abated Mr Samll Phippan Rates which he is rated In Mr Symonds List for Sweeping the meeting house the year Past

Voted

10 the Town abated William Rogers pole money he being not of age when he was rated

Voted

11 the Town abated Nathan Perkins head money to Leut Averell In Mr Thos Symonds List

Essex ss To Jeremiah Averell one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hereby Required to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabitants that are Qualified by Law for Voting in the North ward in Said Town to Conven together att the house of Mr Dan Clarke Innholder in said Town on Tuesday the Twenty Six Day of June Instant att Two of the Clock in the after noon on said Day

1 for the Town to agree Upon a time when to Raise the New Meeting house

2 To See what Method the Town Will agree Upon to provid Victuls and Drink upon the Day or Days that it shall Take to Raise Said Meeting house Viz for the laborers before Supper time

3 To See if the Town will Choose a Comtee to finish the Inside work of the New Meeting House so far as the Town shall think proper

4 to see if the Town Will Choose a Comtee to sell such part of the Stuf and Timber of the old meeting house as shall not be Serviceable in finishing the New Meeting house in the Best manner they Can

5 for the Town to Choose an agent or agents to go to Salem Court in Behalf of the Town to make answer to the presentment for want of a Grammer School the year past

6 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of sd town att Time and place above mentioned

Topsfield June 22nd 1759

John Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Byxby	
David Perkins	
Stephn Perkins	
David Balch Jr	

this is a True Copy of ye warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

Proper returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield June 27th 1759

1 Leut Smith was Chosen modrator for said meeting Voted

2 the Town agreed to Raise the New Meeting House on wensday the forth Day of July next Voted

3 the Town agreed to get a Barriel of Rhum for the people on wensday the forth Day of July for the Laborers that work about the Raising the meeting house Voted

4 the Town agrees to get half a Hundred wait of Shuger for the above sd Serves Voted

5 The Town agreed to Git Twelve Barriels of Sider for the Raising the New Meeting House on the Town Corst Voted

6 Messrs Joseph Gould David Perkins Simon Gould Abraham Hobbs John Perkins Jur Daniel Lake Benja Bixby Luke Averell are Chosen a Comtee to provide the above sd Neseccarys for the Raising the New Meeting house upon the Towns Corst and also to provide provision for a Dinner for one hundred men of such provision as they think proper

6 Capt Perkins Capt Bordman Ensn Gould Messrs Ephram Willdes Solomon Dodge are Chosen a Comtee to sell such part of the Stufe and Timber of the old meeting House as shall not be Servicable in finishing ye New meeting house in the Best maner they Can Voted

7 the Town made Choise of ye Selectmen to go to the Next Generall Session to be holden att Salem to make answer to the presentment for want of a Grammer School the year past

Voted

Essex ss To Joseph Gould one of ye Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hereby Required to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants that are qualified by Law for Voting in the South ward in sd Town to Conven and meet together att the meeting house in sd Town on Tuesday the fourteenth Day of August Instant att Two of the Clock in the afternoon

1 for the Town to Chouse a Comtee to finish ye Inside of the meeting house so far as the Town shall think proper this present year

2 To See if the Town will agree how many Tears of pews they will have round the Inside of the meeting house

3 To see if the Town will agree to Chouse a man or men to Draught and make out the pews Room round ye Inside of said meeting house

4 To see what meathord the Town will Come into to Dispose of the pews Rooms in said meeting House

5 To See if the Town will Build a porch att the Easterly End of the meeting house

6 For the Town to Consider and act upon a petition that may be offered by a number of the Inhabatants of said Town in order to have there Dificulty Removed and Settled In Sum Just way and manner which they Lay Under by Reason of there being a Grater Length of way from ye meeting house then is there Just proportion

7 for the Town to act any thing thay shall think proper Respecting said Dificulties

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town att Time and place above mentioned

Topsfield August ye 6th 1759

John Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Bixby	
Stephen Perkins	
David Balch Jur	

this is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clr

proper Returns being made on Both warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield August 4th 1759

1 Leut Smith was Chosen modrator for sd meeting Voted

2 Deacon George Bixby Leut Samll Smith and Mr Nathan Hood are Chosen a Comtee to finish the Inside of the Meeting house Voted

3 the Town agreed that the said Comtee shall finish the meeting house so far as they Can with Convencey this year Voted

4 the Town agreed to have Two Tears of Pews in the inside of ye meeting house viz on the Northerly Side and one Tear Round the Inside of the other part of the sd meeting house Voted

5 Capt Baker Capt Towne and Capt Averell are Chosen a Comtee to mark out the pews Round in the meeting house according to the above said voate Voted

6 the Town agreed to pass ovre the forth arculatel untill another meeting Voted

7 the Town agreed to build a porch att the Eastorly End of the meeting house Voted

Essex ss To Jeremiah Averell one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are required to worn all the freeholders and Other Inhabatants that are Quallified by Law for Voting in the North ward in said Town to Conven and meet Together att the meeting House in Said Town on Wenseday the Twelfth Day of September Instant att Twelve of the Clock on said Day

1 To Choose Jury men for Newbury Court according to Venire

2 To Choose an agent or agents to go to Newbury Court in the Behalf of the Town to make answer to the presentment for the want of a Grammer School

3 to See if the Town will agree that the Selectmen shall Draw money out of the Town Treasurey for to pay the County tax it being the Sum of Seven pounds Eight Shillings and one peney which is to be paid by the Last of Novr next

4 To See how much money the Town will raise to Defray the Town Charges the year Insuing

5 To See if the Town will afford Sum releff unto Abigail Gallap for her under her present sickness

6 To See if the Town will agree to have another Tear of pews in any part of the New Meeting House more then is already voted

7 to See weather the Town would have the pews built in the meeting house on the Towns Cost and then Sold or wheither they will Sell the pew Room before they are Built

8 for the Town to agree upon a meathod how to Dispose of the pews or pew Room in the meeting house

9 to See if the Town will agree to have the Clabords of the meeting House panted

10 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doing thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town att Time and place above mentioned

John Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Balch Jur	
Daniel Bixby	
David Perkins	
Stephen Perkins	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clr

proper Returns being made on both Warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield Sept^r 12th 1759

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen modrator for said meeting

Voted

2 Messrs Thos Perkins and Thos Dwinell were Chosen Jury men to Serve att the next General Session to be holden att Newbury

3 The Town made Choise of the Selectmen or Either one of them to go to Newbury Court to answer to a persentment for Want of a Grammer School

Voted

4 The Town agreed to Raise one Hundred and Ten pounds to Defray the Charges of the Town ye year Insuing

Voted

5 the Town agrees to allow Abigail Gallop Sum Releaf

Voted

6 the Town agreed to Build another Tear of pews in the meeting House on the fore side of said house

Voted

7 The Town agreed that the Comtee that was Chosen to finish the meeting House should paint the sd house with what Culler they Thought proper

Voted

8 the Town allowed to the Selectmen four pound for the School master

Essex ss To Jeremiah Avierell one of the Const^b of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are here by Required to worn all the Freeholders & Other Inhabatants that are qualified for voting by Law in the Northward in Said Town to Conven and meet to gether att the meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Second Day of Octr next att Twelve of the Clock on sd Day

1 To Choose Jury men for Salem Court according to venire

2 To See if the Town will agree that the Selectmen shall Draw money out of the Town Treasurey for to pay the County Tax it being the Sum of Seven pounds Eight Shillings and one penny Which is to be paid by the Last of November next

At the Desier of Mr David Commings and others the following Clause is Insarted Viz

3 That the Comtee Chosen to build and finish the meeting house bring in and Lay before the Town an account of the Charge that hath Been allridey arisen by Reason of said house

4 To See weither the Town would have the pews built in the meeting House on the Towns Cost and then Sould or whether they will Sell the pew room before thay are built

5 for the Town to agree upon a meathord how to Dispose of the pews or pew Room in the meeting house

6 To See if the Town will agree to and Impower the Town Treasurer or the Comtee to hire money to purchias Glass and pay work men and Gitt such Other Meterials as is and will be Wanted to finish the meeting house (Viz) Such as the Comtee Cannot procur without money in hand

7 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Select men of said Town att Time and place above mentioned

Topsfield Sept 24th 1759

John Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Bixby	
David Balch Jr	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

Proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield Octr 2nd 1759

1 Leut Smith was Chosen modrator for said meeting Voted

2 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen to Serve on the Grand Jury and Messrs Stephen Perkins and Thos Symonds are Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the next Generall Sessions to be holden at Salem

3 The Town agreed that Each of the Several pew Rooms in the meeting house shall be sould to the highest Bidder for the Use of the Town Voted

4 The town agreed that none of the Severall pew rooms in the meeting house shall be sold to any person But to such as have a house and Land of there owne in sd Town Voted

5 The town agreed that no one person shall purchas more Room in the meeting house then for one pew Voted

6 Capt Thos Baker Capt Benja Towne Messrs Elijah Porter Jacob Avirell John Gould David Balch Jur Ens Solomon Gould are Chosen a Comtee to Dispose of the pew room in the meeting House Agreeable to the Votes afor Said Voted

7 The town further agreed that the Comtee Chosen to build and finish the New meeting house Shall hire the Sum of Two hundred pounds on the towns Credit to Enable them to purchas Glass and to pay workmen and to procuer Such other materials as will be wanted to finish said meeting House Voted

8 the town abated Mr James Burchs Rate what he was rated Towards the Building the New Meeting house In Joseph Goulds List Voted

Essex ss To Joseph Gould one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required to worn all the Freeholders and other Inhabatants that are Qualified by Law for Voting in the South ward in Said Town to Convean and meet Together att the meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the Twenty third Day of October Instant att one of the Clock in the after noon

1 To See if the Town will agree to build and reserve a pew in the Meeting house as a parsonage or ministeriel pew as well for the use of those that may Succeed the Revd Mr Emerson in the office of the Ministry as for his own use so Long as he or they shall Carry on the work of the ministry in said Town

2 To See if the Town will agree to Reconsider the voate that was passed att the Last town meeting (Viz) on the Second of October Instant to sell the pew Room in the Meeting House Before they are built

3 To See if the town will agree to Build the pews in the meeting house before thay are Sold

4 for the Town to agree upon Sum further methods how the pews or pew Rooms in the meeting house shall be Disposed of

5 to See if the Town will Reconsider and alter any Vote or Votes relating to Building So many pews in the meeting house in Said Town

6 To See how high the town will agree to have the pews Raised from the floore of the meeting house

7 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield Octr 16th 1759

John Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Perkins	
Stephn Perkins	
David Balch Juner	

this is a True Copy of the above sd warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clr

Proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of the Said Town one Both warrants the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town Meeting Topsfield October 23d 1759

1 Capt Benja Towne was Chosen moderator Voted

2 Saml Smith was Chosen and Sworn Clerk Voted

Then the Town agreed that said meeting be adjurned to fryday the 26th Instant to one of ye Clock after noon att the meeting house Voted

the moderater adjurnd said meeting accordingly Voted
attest Samll Smith

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield heald by adjurnment from the 23rd Day of October Inst to the 26 of the same month and then mett

1 the Town agreed to Build and Reserve a pew In the Meeting House as a personage or Ministeriel pew as well for the Use of those that may Succeed the Revnd Mr Emerson In the office of the ministrey as for his own Use So Long as he or they shall Carry on the work of the ministry In Said Town Voted

2 the Town agreed to Reconsider ye Vote that was Pased att the Town meeting the Second October 1759 of Selling the pew Room Before they ware Built Voted

3 the Town agreed to Build the pews Before they are Sold Voted

4 the Town agrees to have the wall pews Two Steps high Eight Inches to a Stept and the other Tear one Step high of Eight Inches Voted

5 the Town allowed to the Selectmen Three Pounds Seventeen Shillings for going as agents to Salem and Newbury Courts to answer to a persentment for want of a Grammer School In Said Town £3 17s 0d Voted

6 the Town abated Elieser Emerson Rates (Viz) what he was Rated in Mr Thomas Dwinells Rates Voted

Essex ss To Joseph Gould one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby Required to worn all the freeholders and Other Inhabatants that are Quallified by Law for Voting in the South ward in Said Town to Convean and meet Together att the Meeting House in said Town on Tues Day the forth day of March Next att nine of the Clock in the morning

1 To Choose Selectmen Town Clerk Constables and all other Town officers as the Law Directs for the year Insuing

2 To See if the Town accept of the Selectmen Rickoning With the Town Treasurer

3 to Choose Jurymen for march Court according to Venire

4 To See if the Town Will accept of a way Laid out by the Selectmen from Thomas Dwinells to the County Road

5 To See if the Town Will Grant the Petition of Mr Aaron Easty and David Commings and Samll Commings Respecting the Deficultys they Laber Under in Gitting from their Respective houses to the publick Roads that are mended by the Town

6 To See if the Town will Grant Libity to Thomas Mower and others to Sett up a Stable nigh the meeting House

7 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town att Time and place above Mentioned

Topsfield February 18th 1760

John Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Perkins	
Stephen Perkins	
David Balch Jr	
Daniel Bixby	

this is a true Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns being made on both warrants of Worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March 4th 1760

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen Modrator for said meeting
Voted

2 Capt Benja Town Mr Elijah Porter Richard Towne Mr John Gould and Mr David Balch Junr are Chosen Selectmen for the year Insuing
Voted

3 Richard Towne was Chosen Town Clerk for the year Insuing
Voted

4 Jacob Dwinell and David Perkins were Chosen Constables for the year Insuing
Voted

5 Stephen foster was Chosen Town Treasurer for the year Insuing
Voted

6 Capt Thos Baker Mr Zacchus Gould Leut Luke Averell Mr Jacob Averell and Mr Solomin Dodge ware Chosen Tything men for the year Insuing
Voted

7 Elisha Willdes Thos Mower Daniel Lake Isaac Easty were Chosen Survoyers of Heigh ways for the year Insuing
Voted

8 Mr David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of Lather ye year Insuing
Voted

9 Mr Thos Perkins Mr David Balch and Ensign Jacob Robinson were Chosen fence Vewers for the year Insuing
Voted

9 Elieser Lake David Towne Amos Perkins were Chosen Hogreaves the year Insuing
Voted

10 Leut Samll Smith was Chosen Grand Jury for the year Insuing
Voted

11 Mr John Bradstrett and Mr David Towne are Drawn out

of the box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the Next Infearer Court to be holden att Ipswich

12 the Town Excepected of the Selectmen Rickoning with the Town Tresr and there remains in Said Treasurer hand not ordred out Seventy Seven pounds Twelve Shillings Voted

13 the Town Excepted of Mr David Perkins to Serve Constable in the room and Stead of Mr Joseph Andrew Voted

14 the Town Gave Libity to Thos Mowers and others to Set up a Stable att the End of Capt Townes Stable of 20 foot In Langth and nine foot in breadth Voted

15 the Town allowed the former Selectmen Thirteen pounds Six Shillings and Eight pence for the School master Voted

16 the Town agreed that the Selectmen shall order the Survoyers to mend a way Through Mr Aaron Estey Land to the County Road as the others ways are mended in the Town Voted

17 On the petition of David Commings and his Son Samll Voted that the Survoyers of the highways of the Town allow ye sd David & Samll So much out of there high way as is Soficient to mend the way thay go to meeting in as the other ways of sd Town is mended So fair as to Come into the way that is mended by the Town Voted

18 then the Town agreed that Said meeting be adjurned to Tuesday the Eleventh Instant to one of the Clock afternoon att the Meeting house Voted

then the modrator adjurnd said meeting accordingly

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield heald by adjurnment from the forth Day of March Instant to the Eleventh Day of the Said month and then meet and proseeded as followeth

19 the Town abated Mr Theophilus Fisks Rates Late of Wenham Decsd Which is Two Shillings and Two pence in Thos Dwinells List Voted

20 the Town abated the Wid^e Joanna Curtics Rates in Thos Dwinells Lists Which is Six Shillings and Six pence Voted

21 the Town abated John Backs Rates What he was rated in Mr Thos Symond Rates Voted

22 the Town abated all Mr Benja Irelands Rates for the year 1759

23 The Town abated Mr Thos Mowers Rate What he was Rated to the meeting house in the year 1759 by reason of his Losing an ox in the Town Lands Voted

24 the Town allowed to the former Selectmen Eight Shillings Six pence for finding Sundry things for Abigail Gallap and a Coffen 0 8s 6d Voted

The Persons that was Chosen Into Offices on the forth Day of March were Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of there offices on the forth and the Eleventh Day of march Excepting David Perkins Stephen foster and David Town. David Perkins and Stephen foster was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of there offices

Topsfield ss To Jacob Dwinell one of the Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of ye South Ward in Said Town that are qualified by Law for voting in sd Town to Conven and meet Together att the meeting House in sd Town on Tuesday the Eighteenth Day of march Instant att one of the Cloock in the after noon

1 To See if the Town will Choose a Comtee to Reckon with the Comtee that was Chosen to build and finish the new Meeting house Respecting the Charges that has arisen for building and finishing said meeting house so far as it is Done and make a Report to the Town as soon as may be in order for the Town to accept of their Rickoning

2 For the Town to Come into any meethod that thay think proper for to sell and Dispose of the pews in sd meeting house

3 To Choose a Comtee to Reckon with the Comtee that was Chosen to pull Down and Sell the old meeting house respecting what said old meeting House was Sould for and make Report to the Town as soon as may bee for the Town to Except of their Rickoning

4 to Choose a Comtee to Supply the Town with a Grammer School master this present year

5 To See how much money the Town will Raise to mend the High ways this present year

6 To See if the Town will Let Swine Go att Large this present year as the Law Directs

7 to allow Bills of Charge

hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town att Time and place above mentioned

Topsfield March 11th 1760

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Richard Towne	
John Gould	
David Balch Jr	
Elijah Porter	

this is a True Copey of the warrant

attest Richd Towne Town Clerk

there Being proper Returns Being made on Both warrants of Worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield March 18th 1760

1 Leut Smith was Chosen Modreator for said meeting Voted

2 Capt Baker Docter Dexter Mr Elijah Porter Capt Towne and Mr David Balch Jur or the mager part of them are Chosen a Comtee to Reckon with the Comtee that was Chosen to build and finish the meeting House Respecting the Charge that has all ridey arisin for building and finishing sd meeting House Voted

3 the Town agreed that the pews shall Be Sould before they Know What the Charges has arisin to for Building the meeting house Voted

4 the Town agreed the Thirthey Eight pews shall fetch five Hundred and Six pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence £506 13s 4d Voted

5 Mr Stephen Foster Capt Nathll Averell and Mr John Bathalder are Chosen a Commitee to Reckon with the Comtee that took Down the old meeting house and Disposed of the Same and to make Reporte to the Town as soon as may be Voted

6 Mr David Town Mr Thos Baker Jur Mr Samll Commings are Chosen a Comtee to provide the Town with a Grammer School master this present year Voted

7 the Town agreed to Raise forty pounds to Defray the Charges of mending the Highways this present year Voted

8 the Town agreed that Swine should Go att Large this present year Provided they are as the Law Directs Voted
and then the Town agreed that the said meeting should be adjurnd to thirsday the 20th Instant to one of the Clock after-noon Voted

then the modreator adjurnd said meeting accordingly

att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield held by adjurnment from the Eighteenth Day of march Instant to the Twentieth Day of Said month and then meet and proseeded as followeth

1 The Town agreed that the pews on the west Side of the pulpit in the Second Teer adjoyning to the pulpit Stairs shall be Reserved as a personage or ministeriall pew as well for the use of such person or persons as may suceed the Revnd Mr John Emerson in the work of the ministrey in said Town as for his owne use so long as he or they shall Continue in the Work of the ministry in said Town Voted

2 The agreed that the Severall other pews on the sd Meeting House floor shall not be Disposed of for Less in the Whole then the Sum of Five Hundred and Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence Voted

3 Insn Jacob Robinson Capt Baker Leut Samll Smith Mr Joseph Gould Leut Luke Averell Deacon Bixby Mr Stephen Foster Capt John Bordman Mr Jacob Averell Cap Nathll Averell Mr Nathan Hood are Chosen a Comtee to Number and Vallue each of said pews according to the suposed Dignity and quality of Each Pew in their best Judgement and mark on each pew both the Number and what Each Pew is vallued att in proportion to make the Sum of £506 13s 4d Voted

4 Mr Simon Gould Mr David Perkins Mr Daniel Bixby Leut Samll Smith and Mr Jeremiah Averell are Chosen a Comtee to Dispose of said pews in the following manner Viz/ That no pew shall be Sould for Less then what it is valued and marked at but for as much more as any person that has house and Land of their owne in said Town shall agree to Give and that no pew shall be Disposed off to any person that has not a house and Land of his owne in said Town and that Said Comtee shall make a fare Record of what Each pew is Sold for With the persons name to whom it is Sold and shall Lay it before the town att the next town Meeting in order to be Recorded in the town Records Voted

5 the Town agrees to Reserve the following Right of Redemption of Each of said pews /Viz/ that no person that shall purchas a pew in the meeting house shall not att any time hear after Dispose of the Same to any Other person without first Aquainting the Town therewith att a Town meeting and Giving Said town the offer of purching sd pew again if they See Cause Voted

6 the Town agrees that the Comtee or Comtees Chosen to Number the pews and Set a value on each pew and to sell them shall proceed and accomplish the Bisness as soon as they can Conveniently Voted

7 the town agrees that those that Buys the pews shall pay their money for them /Viz/ Ten Dollers Down and the Remaner In Twenty Days Voted

8 the town agrees that the Comtee that was Chosen to sell the pews shall Give Seasonable noties to the Inhabatants of the Town of the time and place of Selling said pews Voted

9 The Towne agreed that those that pay ten Dollors Down for a pew and not pays the Remainer In Twenty Days after shall forfit the said Ten Dollors which he paid Voted

1 the Town allowed the following Sums to the Comtee that provided for the Raising of the New Meeting House

to Thirty four Gallons of Rum and half an Hundred wait of Suger ten pounds ten Shillings & Eleven pence £10 10s 11d

2 to Eleven Barrills of Sider four pounds Eight Shillings £04 8 0

3 To one Hundred and Twenty Eight pound and one Half pound of porke 02 11 8

4 to Twelve pounds and one half of Beef 00 3 4

5 To Eighty Seven pounds of Chease 01 14 9 1/2

6 to white and Brown Bread 01 2 10

7 to mugs Broack 00 1 6

the Comtees Credit of the Sundry things that was Left after the Raising the meeting house which Said Comtee Disposed of to there own Use is four Pounds One Shilling one penney and Two fardens 4 1 1 1/2

Wee the Subscribers being appointed to Prambleate Between Topsfield and Wenham and have met for that purpose this fifth Day of May A D 1760 and have prambulated and Renewed ye bounds as followeth /Viz/ Begining att a Stump and Stones Northward of Theophilus Fisk Barn in ye North East Corner of Danvers from thence to a Stake and Stones on the west side of the Road Leading to Bunkers Medows from thence to a heap of Stones by the Brook at the End of a wall thence to a heap of Stones on the west side of Robinson Island from thence to a heap of Stones by the South East Corner of Pigdons medow and from thence to ye River

Richd Towne } for
Elijah Porter } Topsfield

Thos Tarbox } for
Benja farfield } Wenham

We the Subscribers Selectmen of the town of Ipswich Have this Day mett the Selectmen of the Town of Topsfield and have pramblated the Line and Renewed the Bounds Between the Said Towns as Wittnes our hands

Danll Giddings } Selectmen
Isaac Smith } of Ipswich

Jinuary 19th 1761

Topsfield ss To Jacob Dwinell one of the Constables of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby Required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants in the South Ward in said Town that are qualified by Law for Voting to Conven and meet Together att the meeting house on Tuesday the Twentyeth Instant att one of ye Clock after noon

1 To Chouse a person to Repersent the Town att the Great and Genl Courte as the precept Directs

2 To See if the town Will order the town Treasr to Receve of the Comtee that Sould the pews in the meeting house all the money said pews was Sould for for the towns use and to pay the Same out for Defraying the Charges of Building and finishing the meeting House in Such way as the town shall Direct

3 to See if the Town Will order the Town Treasr to Receve the money for the Towns Use that Mr Nathll Bordman gave the Town by his Last will Towards Building a new meeting house

4 To Sell or Dispose of the Back pews in the gallerys of the meeting House in any way or methard that the Town shall think proper

5 To See If the Town will Except of the Reports of the Comtee that was Chosen to Dispose of ye pews in the meeting House So fur as they are Disposed off

6 to See if the Town will build a Square pew in the Vacant places att Each End of the frunt Gallery adjoyning to the Back pews in the meeting House or act any thing respecting Said Vacant places that the Town shall think proper

7 to See how much of the frunt Gallary shall be pertioned of for the Women

8 To See if the town will agree that the Comtee that was Chosen to Dispose of the pews in the meeting house shall Dispose of the pew No 37 to Nathll Low under his present Circumstances

9 to See if the Town will agree to Cover the Deck of the Steeple of the meeting house with Lead

10 to See If the town will Except of the Comtee Rickoning that sold the old meeting House

11 To Chouse a Comtee to Seet the people in the meeting house and Give them Instructions

12 to See if the Town will Do any thing towards the maintaine of Sarah Town and to See if ye Town will do any thing towards the maintaintes of Sarah Kittery

13 for the Town to act any thing that they shall think proper Respecting Diging and Halling Stones and Gravel to Lay round the porch of the meeting House to make it more Conveantant passing to Each Door of Said porch

14 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield May 14th 1760

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Richard Towne	
John Gould	
Elijah Porter	
David Balch Junr	

this is a True Copy of ye Warrant

attest Richd Towne town Clr

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield May 20th 1760

1 The Town made Choise of Mr John Gould to Represent the town att the Great and Genl Court the year Insuing Voted

2 There Being other Bisness to be Done att said meeting Capt Thos Baker was Chosen Modrator for said meeting Voted

3 the Town agreed that the Comtee that was Chosen to sell the pews in the meeting house shall pay all the money they Receve for said pews to the town Treasurer and to be paid out to Defray the Charges of Building and finishing the meeting House Voted

4 the Town agreed that the Selectmen shall order out the money that was ordred into the treasurer for ye use above sd Voted

5 The town agrees that the town Treasurer shall Rec^d the money that Mr Nathll Bordman Gave in his Last will to the town towards the Building the new meeting house Voted

6 the Town agreed that the pews in ye Gallarys shall be seated Voted

7 The town agreed to Build a Square pew att Each End of the frunt Gallary Joyning to the Back pews and after they are Built then sould to the hiest Bider Voted

8 the town agreed that one third part of the frunt Gallary att the East End shall be set of to the woman Voted

9 the town agreed that the Deck of the Steeple of the meeting house shall Be Covered with Lead Voted

10 Mr John Balch Capt Baker Mr David Balch Junr Mr Dan Clark Capt town Mr Elijah Porter Mr Ephram Willdes Jacob Averell Leut Smith Capt Bordman Messrs Jeremiah town Abraham Hobbs Joseph hovey are Chosen a Comtee to Seat the people in the meeting house Voted

11 The town agreed that the Comtee that was Chosen to sell the pews in the meeting house shall Dispose of the pew No 37 to Nathll Low Under his present Surcomstances then the mod-roater put it to vote to see if the town would adjurn the said meeting and voted it and then the modrator adjurned the said

meeting accordingly to the Twenty Seventh Day of May Instant to Three of the Clock afternoon

Att a Legal town meeting in Topsfield heald by adjurnment from the Twentyeth Day of may Instent to the Twenty Seventh Day of may Instant at three of ye Clock afternoon

12 the Town Excepted of the Comtee Return that was Chosen to Sell the pews in the meeting house Voted

13 the Town agreed to Give the Comtee that was Chosen to Seet the people in the Meeting house Instructions Voted

14 the town agreed that the Comtee that was Chosen to Seet The people in the meeting House shall seet according to there Best Skill and Judgement Voted

15 The town agreed that the Comtee that was Chosen to value the other pews shall value the abovesd pews Voted

16 the town agreed that the Comtee that sold the other pews be a Comtee to sell the pews that is to be Built in the Galleries in the same Regulation the other pews ware Sold Voted

We the Subscribers being Chosen a Comtee to Dispose of the Severall pews in the meeting house and to Such persons only as had a house and Land of their own in said town also to make a fair Record of what each pew was Sold for with the persons names to whome each pew is sold and to Lay it Before the town att the next Town meeting &c

Wee proseeded on said affare on the first Day of April A D 1760 and have Disposed of the pews hearafre mentioned to the persons hearafter named for the Severall Sums in old Tanor affixed to Each of there names &c

But now turned in to Lawfull money as it should have Been by the Honourable Comtee

No 1 to Capt Thomas Baker for	£18	0s	0d
No 2 to Mr Samuel Bradstreet for	17	6	8
No 3 to John Willdes for	14	13	8
No 4 to Jacob Kimball for	12	5	4
No 5 to Doct Richard Dexter for	17	14	8
No 6 to Elijah Porter for	15	1	4
No 7 to Dan Clarke for	12	8	0
No 8 to Joseph Hovey for	12	2	8
No 9 to Zacchus Gould for	16	0	0
No 10 to Paletiah Commings for	15	6	8
No 11 to Robert Perkins for	14	16	0
No 12 to John Bradstreet for	16	13	4
No 13 to Leut Luke Averell for	18	10	0
No 14 to Benja Bixby for	18	2	8

No 15 to Joseph Perkins for	17	17	4
No 16 to Daniel Lake for	18	0	0
No 17 to John Perkins Junr for	17	4	0
No 18 to Nathan Hood for	14	8	0
No 19 to Nehemiah Herrick for	13	14	8
No 20 to Archelaus Rea for	14	5	4
No 21 to John Hood for	12	0	0
No 22 to Thomas Mower for	12	0	0
No 23 to Elisha Willdes for	15	4	0
No 24 to Stephen Perkins for	14	13	4
No 25 to David towne for	12	8	0
No 26 to Jeremiah Averell for	11	12	0
No 27 to Thomas perkins for	12	2	8
No 28 to Joseph Gould for	13	9	4
No 29 to Deacon Daniel Gould for	17	6	8
No 30 to David Perkins for	16	16	0
No 31 to Joseph Andrew for	16	8	0
No 32 to David Balch Junr for	11	12	0
No 33 to Simon Gould for	11	14	8
No 34 to Daniel Bixby for	11	17	4
No 35 to Ensn Solomon Gould for	11	6	8
No 36 to Leut Thomas Gould for	11	6	8
No 37 to Nathaniel Low for	11	4	0
No 38 to Capt John Bordman	17	9	4
<hr/>			
total Lawfull money	£552	18	8

Topsfield May 19th 1760

Simon Gould	} Comtee
Jeremiah Averell	
Daniel Bixby	
David Perkins	
Samll Smith	

Topsfield ss To Jacob Dwinell one of the Constables of Said Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties name you are hearby Required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the South ward in sd town that are Qualified by Law for Voteing to Conven and meet together att the Meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the fifteenth Day of July Instant at two of the Clock in the after noon

1 To Select out one Quarter part of the mens Names that shall be Laid before the town in a List by the Select men and to put them in a box by themselves to Serve at ye Supr Courts as the Law Directs and to Select out of the Remainder as many as the town shall think Sutable and put them into another Box to Serve att the Infer Courts &c

2 To Consider and act any thing that the town shall think proper Respecting the maintance of the french Newtrals that is by the Genl Court proportioned for this town to maintain

3 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this worrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield July 1st 1760

Richard Town	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Gould	
Elijah Porter	

Proper Returns being made on both worrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town the meeting followeth

Att a Legal town meeting in Topsfield July 15th 1760

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen Modreator for said meeting
Voted

2 the Serverall parsons hearafter named were voted into the Box to Serve att the Supr Courts

Jeremiah Avirell Capt Thos Baker Capt John Bordman
Solomon Dodge Stephen foster David perkins Leut Samll Smith
Deacon George Bixby David Balch Jur Aaron Easty John Gould
Simon Gould Solomon Gould Zacchus Gould Elijah porter
Matthew Peabody

3 the names of the Severals persons that was Voted into the Box to Serve att the Infer Courts are as followeth

Luke Averell	Thos Symonds	Dan Clarke
Capt Nathll Averell	Joshua towne Jur	Archalues Rea
Joseph Andrew	John Willdes	Jacob Dwinell
John Bradstreet	Elisha Willdes	thomas Dwinell
John Baker	Zebulon Willdes	Isaac Estey
Palitiah Commings	Abraham Hobbs	Joseph Gould
John Perkins Jur	Joshua Balch	Neher Herrick
Nathan Hood	Daniel Bixby	Elieser Lake
Ribart Perkins	Benja Bixby	Daniel Lake
Amos Perkins	John Balch	Thos Mower
Thos Perkins Jur	Thos Baker Jur	Thos perkins
Stephen Perkins	Samll Commings	John Peabody
David towne	Jeremiah Towne	Jacob Robinson
Joseph towne	Elisha Towne	
Jabez Towne		

4 the Town allowed to the School Comtee Ten pounds to Pay Mr Tradwell for Keeping School Three months and Bord
£10 0s 0d

5 the Town allowed Leut Luke averell one pound for Bording
Mr Bridge 4 weeks in the year 1759 1 0 0

6 The Town allowed Solomon Gould one pound for Bording
Mr Bridge four Weeks 1759 1 0 0

Topsfield ss To David Perkins one of the Constables of the
Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are
hearby Required to worn all the freeholders and other Inhaba-
tants yt are Qualified by Law for Voting in the North Ward in
Said Town to Convean and meet together att the Meeting house
in Said Town on Tuesday the Sixteenth Day of Septr Instant
att Three of the Clock after noon

1 to Chouse Jurymen to Serve att Newbury Court as ye
Venire Directs

2 To See how much money the Town will raise to Defray
the town Charges this present year

3 to See if the Town will Do any thing towards having a
way found for Messrs David town and Thos Dwinell to Come
to meeting in

4 to Chouse a man or men to make answer att the Court of
Genll Sessions of the peace to be holden att Newbury L C
Respecting the presentment of the Highway from Topsfield to
Wenham

5 To See if the town will Except of ye Comtee Seating the
people in the meeting house

6 to Except of ye Comtee Rickening with the Comtee that
was Chosen to sell the old meeting house

7 To See if the town will order the Town Tresr to Recive of
the Comtee that was Chosen to Sell the old meeting house all
the money the sd old meeting house was Sold for for the Towns
Use and to pay the Same out according to order

8 to alow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your
doing to one or more of the Selectmen att time and place
above mentioned

Topsfield September 1th 1760

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Richard Towne	
John Gould	
Elijah Porter	
David Balch Jr	

this is a true Copy of ye Warrant

attest Richd Towne town Clr

Proper returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of ye Town on both worrants the meeting folleth

Att a Leagall Town meeting in Topsfield Sepr 16th 1760

1 Capt Thomas Baker was Chosen Modreator for sd meeting
Voted

Messrs Thos Baker Junr and Daniel Lake were Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of tryals att the next Infear Court to be holden att Newbury

2 the Town a Greed to Raise one hundred and thirty pounds To Defray the Charges of the Said Town Mr Emerson Salary Included in said Sum
Voted

3 Leut Samll Smith and Mr Elijah Porter are Chosen to go to the next Court of Genl Sessions to be holden att Newbury to make answer to a presentment for not mending the Highway from Topsfield to Wenham
Voted

4 Mr Matthew Peabody was Chosen to go to the Court of Genll Sessions to be holden att Salem to Serve on the Grand Jury
Voted

and Messrs Zacchus Gould and Solomon Dodge are Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of tryalls att the next Supear Court to be holden att Salem

5 the Town allowed to Mr Daniel Bixby forty five Shillings for Bording a School Master in the year 1759
Voted

We the Subscribers Being a Comtee apointed by the Town of Topsfield and Boxford to prambelate the Line Between the Towns have meet this 11th Day of December 1760 and prambelated Said Line Begining att an appel tree with Stones about it in Leut Asa Parley field from thence to a Stake and heap of Stones att the Southerly Corner of Bakers farme /So Called/ thence to where the water runs through the Dam near Simon Goulds House Called Andrews Dam thence to a Stake and heap of Stones by fishing Brook on the Easterly Side of a Rever late runing into said Brook thence as sd brook Runs to Ipswich River So Called thence up said River to middelton Line

Thos Parley	} Comtee for Boxford	Simon Gould	} Comtee for Topsfield
Retier Bacon		Zacchus Gould	
Joseph Hale 3rd		Joseph Gould	

These May Certefy we who was apointed to prambelate Between Topsfield and Meddelton have Mett this 9th Day of December 1760 and have Renewed the Bounds Between the Said Townes begining att a heap of Stones in Nickels Brook above the Sawmill and So runing as the Brook runs the most Northerly

part thereof to a Bunch of Ashes Standing att the mouth of Said Brook where it Entuers it self into the River

Nehemiah Herrick	} Comtee for	Daniel Robinson	} Comtee for	
Samll Commings		Joseph Symonds		Middelton
Jacob Towne		Topsfield		

We the Subscribers having prambelated the Lines and Bounds Between Topsfield and Danvers on the 5 Day of December 1760 and Renewed Said Bounds and Line as followeth /Viz/ Begining att a White oak Stump with Stones about it Standing about one Rod and an half North Eastly from Thophilus Fisk Barn near Wenham Causaway from thence to a Black Oak Stump With a heap of Stones Standing in Daniel Gotts Orchard from thence to a heap of Stones near Thos Dwinells paster from thence to a heap of Stones near Nichelos Brook So on the Same Course to Said Brook near the Sawmill Commonly Called porters Sawmill

John Nichelos	} Danvers	Richard Towne	} for
		Elijah Porter	

Topsfield ss To Jacob Dwinell one of the Constables of Said Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required forthwith to worn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabatants of the South ward in Said Topsfield that are qualified by Law for Voating to Convean and meet Together att the Meeting house In Said Town on Tuesday the third Day of March Next att Nine of the Clock in the fore noon

1 To Chouse Selectmen a Town Clerk and all Other Town officers as the Law Directs

2 To See if the town will Give the Revd Mr John Emerson the Sum of Six pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence as an addition to his Settled Salary annually to Enable him to pay for the halling his fire wood So Long as he shall Continuer to Carry on the word of the ministry in 'sd Town

3 To See if the Town will Except of the Selectmen Rickoning with the Town Treasurer

4 that the Town Require of that part of the Comtee which was Chosen to Seat the people of the Town in the meeting house Which porseeded to Lay before said Town how and Where Each person is seated

5 To See if the town Will Except of there Seeting If not

6 to Chouse Three or five men to Seat the people of the town in the meeting house according to the Instructions the town shall Give them and Lay the same before the town for there Exceptions

7 To Chouse a Comtee to Supply the town with a Grammer School Master this present year as the Law Directs

8 to See how much money the town will Raise to Defray the Charges of mending the heighways this present year

9 to See if the Selectmen shall make a rate for the money that may be voated to be raised for Defray the Charge of mending the highway this present year and Commit Lists to the Constable and Give them a warrant to Collect it and also make out Lists to the Severell Survoyers of the highways of what Each person in there Wards is assessed and Give Each Survoyers Directions how Each person shall work out what they are as-sessed

10 to See if the town will Direct the Survoyers of the highways to make out a Cartificate to the Constables of Each persons that has workd out the whole of what they are assessed in the highway Rate and also a Cartificate of what part Each person has workd out of what they are assessed in the highway Rate that has not workd out ye whole

11 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town on or before Said Day att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield Febr 10th 1761

Benja Towne	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Richard Towne	
John Gould	
Elijah Porter	
David Balch Juner	

this is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richd Town town Clerk

Proper Returns Being made on both warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legal town meeting in Topsfield March 3rd 1761

1 Capt Thos Baker was Chosen modrator for sd meeting
Voted

2 Richard Towne was Chosen Town Clerk for year Insuing
Voted

3 Elisha Willdes and Daniel Bixby was Chosen Constables
for ye year Insuing
Voted

4 Mr Stephen Foster was Chosen Town Treasurer for the
year Insuing
Voted

5 Messrs Joseph Gould Thos Symonds and Abraham Hobbs
were Chosen Tything men for the Year Insuing
Voted

6 Messrs Thomas Symonds Samll Commings Zacchus Gould were Chosen Survoyers of the highways for the year Insuing
Voted

7 Mr David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of Lather for the year Insuing
Voted

8 Messrs Luke Averell Capt John Bordman and Solomon Dodge were Chosen fence Vewers for the year Insuing
Voted

9 Capt Thos Baker and Mr Thos Perkins were Chosen Hog Reaves for the year Insuing
Voted

10 the Town made Choise of Mr Stephen Foster town Treasurer to Receve Six pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence the money that the Court of Generall Sessions ordred Col Chote to pay to the Town of Topsfield and the said Treasurer to Receive Said money for the towns use and Give a Discharge for the same
Voted

then the modrator put it to See if the town would adjurn the Said meeting and voted it then the Modrator adjurned the Said meeting accordingly to the fifth Day of march Instant to one of the Clock after noon

att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield Held by a adjurnment from the Third Day of march Instant to the fifth Day of Said month to one of the Clock after noon

1 Leut Luke Averell and Mr John Balch were Chosen Wardens
Voted

2 the Town Excepted of the Selectmen Rickoning with the Town Treasurer and there Remains in Said hands not ordred out the Sum of one hundred and Seven pounds Seven Shillings and two pence and also five pounds Six Shillings and Eight pence which was Given to the town by Mr Nathl Bordman Deces^d

3 Capt John Bordman Mr Stephen Perkins Mr Jeremiah Averell Capt Thos Baker Mr Simon Gould were Chosen Selectmen for the year Insuing
Voted

4 the Town Required of that part of the Comtee that was Chosen to Seat the people of the town in the meeting house which proseeded to Lay Before the town how and where Each person was Seated and the sd modrator Required it in the Towns name
Voted

then the modrator put it to voute to See if the Town would adjurn the said meeting and vouted it then the modrator adjurned the meeting accordingly to monday the ninth Day of March Instant to one of the Clock after noon

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield heald by adjurnment from the fifth Day of March Instant to the ninth Day of said month to one of the Clock after noon

1 It was put to voate to see if the Town will Except of that part of the Comtee that prosceeded to seat the people in the meeting house of there Seating and it past in the Negative

2 Capt Nathll Averell Capt Thos Baker Capt John Bordman Mr Simon Gould Mr Amos Perkins were Chosen a Comtee to Seat the people In the meeting house Voted

3 Mr Dan Clarke Mr Daniel Lake and Mr Nemeiah Herrick are Chosen a Comtee to Supply the town with a Grammer School Master for the year Insuing Voated

4 The Town agreed that the Comtee that was Chosen to Seat the people in the meeting House Should have Respect to age and money and Lay the Same Before the Town for there Exceptance Voted

5 the Town allowed to Mr John Lefaver for Bording Mr Rusel fourteen Weeks att Six Shillings per week £4 4s 0d Voted

6 the Town allowed to Mr Elijah Porter for Bording Mr Rusel four Weeks att five Shillings and four pence per week

£1 1s 4d Voted

7 the town allowed to Mr David Towne what Jonathan Dodges Juner was Rated in Said Townes Lists Voated

8 the town allowed to Jeremiah Averell Const what James Burch Was Rated in the Said Averells Lists Voted

9 the Town allowed to Mr David Towne and others School Comtee Twenty Pounds for Six munths Schooling of Mr Treadwell

10 the Town abated Archalus Kinney Rate for the year 1759

11 Voted that the Selectmen shall make a rate for the money that is Voted to be Raised for the Defraying the Charges of mending the highways this present year and Commit Listes thereof to the Constables and Give a warrant to Collect it and also make out Lists to the Severell Survoyers of the highways of what Each person in thire wards are assesed and also Give Each Survoyers Directions how Each person may work what they are assessed

12 Voted that Each of the Survoyers of the highways be Directed to make out a Cartificate to the Constable or Constables that has the List or Listes of Each persons rates in thire wards of Each persons that has Workd out the whole of thire Rates for the highways and also a Cartificate what part Each person has to work out of their Rates for the highway that has not workd out the Whole

13 The town agreed to Raise Sixty pounds to Defray the Charges of mending the highways this present year this Should have Been Entred Before But it was over Look Voted

13 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen Grand Jury man for the year Insuing Voted

14 Mr Nehemiah Harrick and Mr Joseph Gould are Drawn Out of the Box to Serve on ye Jury of Tryalls att the next Inferer Court to Be holden att Ipswich the persons that was Chosen Into offices on the third and fifth Day of March 1761 were all Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their offices Excepting Stephen Foster David Perkins and Thomas Perkins Thomas Perkins is Sworn

Essex ss To Mr Elisha Willdes on of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby Required foarthwith to Worn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabatants of the North Ward in Said Town that are Qualified by Law for Voting to Conven and meet together att the meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the Ninteenth Day of May Instant at one of the Clock after noon

1 To Choose a man to Represent the Town att the Great and Generall Court according to precept

2 To See if the Town will Give the Revnd Mr John Emerson the Sum of Six pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence annuly In addition to his Sallary So Long as he Shall Continue in the Work of the ministry amongst us

3 to See if the Town Will accept of the Charge that hath arisen in Building and finishing the meeting House that may Be Laid before the Town by the Comtee that was Chosen to Do Said work or to act any thing further as to the Setteling of Said affare

4 To See if the Town Will order that the Town Stock of powder and other ammenition shall be put in a Conveant place In the meeting house

5 To See if the Town Will Chuse a man or men to provide Stones for Steps for the meeting House

6 to See if the Town Will Lett Swine Go att Large the year Insuing as the Law Directs

7 To See if the Town Will Except of the Return of ye Comtee that was Last Chosen to Seet the people in the meeting house how and where Each parson is Seated

8 to See if the Town Will hear how and where Merss Ephram Willdes Jacob Averell and others a Comtee Chosen to Seat the people of Said Town in the meeting house have Seated them

9 To See if the Town Will Except of the People being Seated as Said Comtee have Seated them in sd meeting house and if not then

10 To See if the Town will agree that Each Severell person that is the owners of a pew in the meeting house with their family shall be Seated in the other Common Seats Exclusive of their pews in the meeting house and if so then

11 To See if the Town will agree that the Severall pews in the meeting house that the owners will not take for there proper Seats Both for themselves and familys shall be Reckoned Vallued and Lett to them as their other proper Rateable Estate

12 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield May 5th 1761

Thos Baker	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Simon Gould	
Jeremiah Averell	
Stephen Perkins	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper returns being made on Both Warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legal town meeting in Topsfield May 19th 1761

the Town made Choise of Mr John Gould to Resepresent the town at the Great and Generall Court the year Insuing and there Being other Bisness to be Done

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen modreator for said meeting

2 the Town Voted to Give the Revd Mr John Emerson the Sum of Six pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence annueally in addition to his Salary So Long as he shall Continue in the Work of the ministrey amountst us

3 Capt Baker Doct Dexter Mr Elijah Porter Capt Towne and Mr David Balch Jur or the mager part of them are Chosen a Comtee to Rickon with the Comtee that was Chosen to build & finish the meeting house Respecting the whole Charge of building and finishing the Said meeting house Voted

4 the town Voted that the Town Stock Should be put in the meeting house in Sum Conveanant place where the Selectmen shall think proper

5 Deacon Bixby is Chosen to provide Stones for Steps for the meeting house Doors Voted

6 The town voted that Swine Should Go att Large the year Insuing provided they are as the Law Directs

Essex ss To Daniel Bixby one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties name you are hearby Required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants In the South ward in said town that are Quallified by Law for voting to Conven together att the meeting house on Wenesday the Eight Day of July next insuing att Two of the Clock after noon

1 To See what abatements are proper to be made on the Lists heartofore Committed to the Severall former Constables and abate them

2 to alow Bills of Charge

3 To See if the town will Give any further orders or Come into any other method as to Disposing of the Square pues in the Gallaries in the meeting House

4 To See if the Town Will Except of the Comtee Rickoning With the Comtee that Sold the Old meeting house Stuff and Order the money into the town Tresury for the towne Use

5 to See What the town Will allow Benja town Junor for keeping Anne Wallis to this time and agree with him or Sum other person to keep her for Sum time further or Come into Some other method for her Support

6 to See if the town Will Except of the Comtee Rickoning With the Comtee that was Chosen to Build and finish the meeting House or any part of Said Rickoning

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen att Time and place above mentioned

Topsfield June 29th 1761

Thomas Baker	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Bordman	
Simon Gould	
Jeremiah Averell	
Stephen Perkins	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns Being made on Both Warrants of Worning the Inhabatants of the town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

Att a Legall town meeting in Topsfield July 8th 1761

1 Capt Thos Baker Was Chosen modrator for sd meeting
Voted

2 The town abated Nathl Townes Rates What he was Rated in Jeremiah Avirell former Const Rates which is £1 11 6

Whereas ye Town of Topsfield did on May 19, 1761 Vote to me ye Subscriber ye Sum of Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings & four Pence in addition to my salary to be paid annually so long as I Continue in ye work of ye ministry in sd town I do hereby acknowledge my self satisfied & Contended there with.

John Emerson Pastor.

3 The town abated Nathl Townes Rates what he was Rated In Abraham Hobbs former Const Rates which is £0 5 6 Voted

4 the Town abated Joseph Laseley pole Rate what he was Rated in Jeremiah Averell former Const Rates £0 6 4 Voted

5 The town abated Samll Phippan Pole money for his Head for Two years past Voated

6 the Town abated all Benja Ireland Reates that he is rated in Jacob Dwinells Listes which is £0 18 10 Voted

7 The Town allowed to Mr Dan Clarke 1 14 7 for Boarding the Comtee When Rickoning about the meeting House Voted

8 The Town allowed to the Comtee that Rickoned about the meeting house to Three Days Each at 4 £2 8 8 Voted

9 the town allowed to Elisha Willdes £0 5 0 for forty four feet of white oak plank Voted

10 The Town allowed to Deacon Bixby £4 0 3 1/4 for hall-ing Stones and Graviell and Laying them att the meeting house Does Voted

11 the town Voted that the pews in the Gallarys Shall be Sould in open Town Meeting

12 The Town Voted that the Pews Shall be Sould to the Towns people

13 the Town voted that the modrator should Set up the Pews

14 The town Excepted of the Comtee Rickoning with the Comtee that was Chosen to take Down the old meeting House and Sell the Stuff of sd house which is £9 11 0

15 the Town Voted that the Said Comtee Should pay the money to Mr Stephen foster Town Treasurer

16 The town allowed the Comtee that sold the Stuff of the old meeting house five Dollars £1 10 0

17 The town Excepted of the Rickon of the Comtee that was Chosen to Rickon with the Commtee that Built and finish the meeting house and the Whole of Building and finishing the said meeting house amounts to £743 10 7 3/4

and there Remains Due to the Said Comtee that Built and finished Said meeting House £53 17 1 1/4

Essex ss To Daniel Bixby one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties name you are hearby Required forth with to Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants in the South Ward in Said Town that are Quallified by Law for Voting to Convean and meet together att the meeting House in said town on Tuesday the Twenty Second Day of September next at one of the Clock afternoon

1 To See how much money the Town will raise to Defray the Town Charges the year Insuing

2 to Choosee Jurymen for Newbury Court according to Venire

3 To See if the Town will Choose an agent or agents to petition to the Court of Generall Sessions of the place to be holden att Newbury on the Last Tuesday of September next for Sum help from the County to new build the River Bridge

4 to See if the Town will Choose men to appear att Newbury Court in Sept Next in Behalf of the town Respecting the Return of the Comtee that was appointed to Lay out a Highway by Capt Townes to Middelton

5 To See how Long time the Town will give to Such persons as shall purchis the Two Square pews in the meeting house Gallary to pay the money in

6 to Sell the two Squir pews in the meeting house Gallarys according to the Towns Vote

7 To See if the town Will Choose a man or men to Seat the meeting House in the Rome of such of the Comtee as Do refuse to Serve

hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings there on to one or more of the Selectmen of sd town at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield August 31st 1761

Thos Baker	}	Selectmen of Topsfield
John Bordman		
Jeremiah Averell		
Stephen Perkins		

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne town Clr

Proper Returns Being Made on both Warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

At a Legal Meeting in Topsfield September 22nd 1761

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen Modrator for said meeting

Voted

2 the town agreed to Raise one hundred and forty pounds

Including Mr Emerson Sallary with other Common Charges of the Town for the year Insuing Voted

3 Joshua Balch and Joseph Towne were Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury att the Next Inferiour Court to Be houlden at Newbury

4 Mr Stephen Perkins and Capt John Boardman are Chosen agents to appear at Newbury Court in behalf of the Town respecting the return of the Comtee that was appointed to Lay out a Highway by Capt Benja Townes to Middleton Voted

5 the Town agreed that the parsons that Buy the Two Square pews in the meeting House Gallaryes Shall have Three months time to pay the money Into the Treasurer Without Instrest Voted

6 Messrs Daniel Bixby Dan Clarke and Zacchus Gould are Chosen a Comtee to assest the Comtee that Did not Refuse to Serve in Seating the people in the meeting House Voted

Essex ss To Elisha Willdes one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are Hearby Required Forthwith to Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants in the North Ward In Said Town that are quallified by Law Voting to Convean and meet together at the meeting House in said town on Tuesday the thirteenth Day of October Instent att one of the Clock after noon

1 To Choose Jurymen for Salem Court according to Venire

2 To Choose a man or men to Sell the Ropes and all other things that belongs to the town that Remains un Soald which was purchased for the Building and finishing the meeting house and to pay the money unto the Town Treasurer for the towns use

3 to See if the town Will agree to Give any Cartain Sum of money to any person that will agree to take the widow Rachel Burck's Child and free the town from any further Cost and Charge for its Support Untill it Shall arive to the age of Eighteen years

4 To allow Bills of Charge

5 To See if the town will Sell the Two Square pews in the meeting House Gallarys to the highest Bidder in open Town meeting notwithstanding any previes votes as to the sail of said pews

6 To See if the moderator of this present meeting shall put said pews upon sail

7 To See if the town order the money the pews shall fetch to be paid unto the Town Treasurer in three months after the sail of said pews

8 To See if the Town Will Choose an agent or agents to go to Salem Court in Behalf of the Town in order to have the Cost Set aside of the Road Lately Laid out from Topsfield to Meddeltown

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield October 5th 1761

Simon Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Bordman	
Jeremiah Averell	
Richard Towne	

this is a true Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield October 13th 1761

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen modreator for said meeting

Voted

2 Mr Simon Gould is Chosen to Serve on the Grand Jury at the Next Supr Court to be holden at Salem

Voted

3 Deacon Bixby and Mr Aaron Estey are Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the next Supr Court to be Holden at Salem

4 Deacon Bixby and Leut Smith are Chosen to Sell the Ropes and all the other Things that belongs to the Town that remains unsold Which was purchased for Building and finishing the meeting house and to pay the money unto the Town Treasurer for the towns use

Voted

5 The Town abated Nathan Willdes pole Tax what he was rated in Mr David Perkins List which is £1 1s 8d

Voted

6 the Town abated Absolom Townes pole tax what he was Rated in Mr Jacob Dwinells List

Voted

7 The town abated Nathll Townes Rates what he was rated in David Perkins Listes which is £1 2s 10d

Voted

8 the Town abated Enoch perkins Rates what was Due to Mr Jeremiah Averell of the Said Enoch's Rates

Voted

9 The town abated the wido Joanna Curtis Rates what She was rated In Mr Joseph Goulds Lists

Voted

10 the Town abated Abraham Hobbs pole tax to the Province for the year 1758

Voted

11 the Town allowed to Mr Jacob Averell five Shillings and Ten pence for Twenty Two feet of Timber and fifty feet of plank

Voted

12 The town allowed to Mr Stephen Foster Thirteen Shillings

and two pence for Sixteen feet of Timber and one hundred and Twenty nine feet of White oke plank Voted

13 The Town allowed to Archelues Rea Sixteen Shillings it Being an abatement of the meeting house Rate in Joseph Gould List Voted

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield held by adjournment from the 13th Day of October Instant to the Twenty Eight Day of said month and then met and proceeded as followeth

1 Mr Stephen Perkins is Chosen agent to go to Salem Court next Generall Session Insuing to Git the Cost Set a side of the Road Lately Laid out from Topsfield to Middelton Voted

2 The Town allowed to Leut Samll Smith and Mr Elijah Porter Three pounds fourteen Shellings and Seven pence for Going to Court to make answer to a presentment about the Highway Voted

3 the Town abated Davies Houlett Tax to the Highway Rate Voted

Topsfield ss To Elisha Willdes one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hear Required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants in the North ward in said Town that are Qualified by Law for Voting to Convean and meet to gether att the meeting House in said Town on Tuesday the Second Day of March Next at of the Clock in the morning

1 To Choose Selectmen a Town Clerk Constables and all other Town officers as the Law Directs

2 To See if the Town Will Except of the Selectmen Reckening with the Town Treasurer

3 To See how much money the Town Will Rayes to Defray the Charges of mending the Highways this present year

4 To See if the Town will Choose a man to Petieion to the Generall Court in Behalf of the town for Libity to raise money by Lattery to New build the River Bridge and Raise the Causaway

5 To See if the Town Will Lett Swine go att Large this present year as the Law Directs

6 To See if the town will Sell the Two Squair pews in the meeting House Gallarys in the method allridey voted or Come into any other method that the Town Shall think proper as to Selling Said pews or Seating them

7 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof Fail not and make Return of this warrant with your

Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said town
at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield February 22nd 1762

John Bordman	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Simon Gould	
Jeremiah Averell	
Stephn Perkins	

this is a true Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield March 2nd 1762

1 Leut Samll Smith was Chosen Modreator for said meeting
Voted

2 the weather Being very Stormey and Traviling Deficult the
Town agreed to adjurn said meeting to Wenes Day the tenth
Day of march Instant to nine of the Clock in the morning to
which time said meeting was adjurned

Att said meeting held by adjurnment on the Tenth Day of
March 1762

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen and Sworn Clerk for sd
meeting Voted

2 Messrs Stephen Perkins Jeremiah Averell John Balch Simon
Gould and Joseph Andrew were Chosen Selectmen Voted

2 Richard Towne was Chosen Clerk Voted

3 Missrs David Balch Junr and John Perkins Junr were
Chosen Constables Voted

5 Mr Stephen Foster was Chosen Town Treasurer Voted

6 Missrs Elieser Lake Junr Pallitiah Commings and John
Bradstreet Were Chosen Tything men Voted

7 Missrs Zacchaus Gould and Thos Symonds were Chosen
Surveyers of the highways Voted

8 Mr David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of Lether Voted

9 Capt Nathll Averell Missrs Abraham Hobbs and Luke
Averell were Chosen fence Vewers Voted

10 Messrs Stephen Adams Benja Bixby and Robart Perkins
were Chosen Hog reaves Voted

11 Doct Richard Dexter Capt John Bordman were Chosen
wardens Voted

12 The Town agreed to Raise Sixty Pounds to Defray the
Charges of mending the highways the year Insuing Voted

13 the Town Excepted of the Selectman Rickoning with the
Town Treasurer Voted

14 Voted that Swine Should Go att Large as the Law Directs
the year Ensuing

15 the Town Voted that Mr Elijah Porter Deacon George Bixby and Leut Samll Smith be a Comtee to Sell the Two Square pews in the Gallarlys in Such a way and manner as they shall think most for the Instrust of the Town

16 Capt Thos Baker was Chosen to Serve on the Grand Jury the year Insuing Voated

17 Missrs Abraham Hobbs and John Peabody were Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at the Infearer Court to be holden at Ipswich

18 the Town allowed to Mr David Perkins £1 2 10 being an abatement of what Samll Phippen was Rated in his List being for said Samll Sweeping the meeting House

19 The Town allowed to Mr Dan Clarke and Others for Supplying the Town with a School Master Two mounths and Sixteen Days Eight pounds fourteen Shillings and Eight pence
£8 14s 8d

20 The Town allowed to Capt Thos Baker £0 4 0 for his Going to Newbury about the french [Neutrals]

21 The Town allowed to Mr Dan Clark for what the wid Joanna Curtes Jonathan Dodge Samll Porter William Gallap and James Nickols was Rated in his List
£1 6s 10d

22 The Town allowed to Mr Daniel Lake for plank 0 6 0

23 The Town allowed to Mr Jacob Dwinell for which Archelaus Kiney was Rated in his List
£1 1 8

24 The Town abated Mr Benja Irelands Rates what he was Rated in Constable Bixby Lists which is
£0 16 11

attest Elijah Porter Clerk for said meeting

The Persons Chosen Into office att the above said meeting to Which an oath Did Belong were Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of there office on the 10 and 20 23 24 Day of said month Excepting Doct Dexter and Mr David Perkins Doct Dexter has Taken the oaths Belonging to his Respective office Mr David Perkins has Taken the oaths to his Respective office as the Law Requires

Topsfield ss To David Balch Junr one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby Required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and Other Inhabatants in the South Ward In Said town that are Qualified for Voting to Convean and meet att the Meeting House in said Town on Monday the Twenty Ninth Day of March Instant at Two of the Clock after noon

1 To See if the town Choose an agent or agents to petition to the Court of Generall Sessions of the place to be holden at

Ipswich on the Last Tuesday of march Instant for Sum help from the County to new Build the River Bridge and Causaway

2 To Choose a Comtee to Supply the town with a Grammer School Master this present year

3 To See if the town will Release Docter Richard Dexter from Serving as Worden and If thay Do then

4 To Choose a man to Serve in the offices of worden this present year

5 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield March 22d 1762

Simon Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jeremiah Avirell	
John Balch	
Joseph Andrew	
Stephen Perkins	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne town Clerk

At Legal Town meeting ye 29th of March 1762

1 Capt Thomas Baker was Chosen modreator for said meeting Voted

3 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen and Sworn Clr for sd meeting Voted

3 Mr Elijah Porter and Leut Samll Smith were Chosen to petition the Court of Generall Sessions of the peace for help to new Build the River Bridge and Causey Voted

4 Voated that Missers Joseph Gould Thomas Mower and Nathan Hood Be a Comtee to Supply the Town with a Grammer School Master this present year

5 the Town allowed Mr Dan Clarke Two Shillings and four pence Being abatement of the wido Cree Rates what she was Rated in said Clarkes List Voted

6 The town allowed to Mr Abraham Hobbs Seven Shillings and four pence for his finding 76 foot of white oak plank to mend Bridges in said Town Voted

Elijah Porter Clerk for sd meeting

Topsfield ss To David Balch Junr one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are Hearby required forthwith To Worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of the South Ward in said Town that are

Qualified by Law for voating to Conven and meet Together att the meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Eighteenth Day of may next at Two of the Clock after noon

1 To Choose a man to Represent the Town at the Greate and Generall Court according to precept

2 To See if the Town will accept of the Return of the Com-mitee that was Last Chosen to Seet the people in the meeting House

3 to Se what the town will Do with Respect to maintain of anna Wally [Wallis]

4 To See if the Town will order the Survoyers to Joyn with Boxford In New Building fishing Brook Bridge So Called

5 To See if the Town will agree to New Build the River Bridge

6 To Choose a Comtee to New build the River Bridge

7 to allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doing thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield April 27th 1762

Simon Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jeremiah Averell	
John Balch	
Joseph Andrew	
Stephen Perkins	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns being made on Both Warrants ye meeting followeth

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield May 18th 1762

The Town made Choise of Mr Elijah Porter to Represent the town at the Great and General Court the year Insuing Voted and there being other Bisness to be Done att said meeting

2 Mr Elijah Porter Was Chosen and Sworn Clark for sd meeting

3 Voted the Selectmen order the Survoyers of the Highways to Joyn with Boxford to New build fishing Brook Bridge

4 the Town allowed to Mr Abraham Hobbs one Shilling it being an abatement of what Samll Phippan had not paid on said Hobbs List of Rates

Topsfield ss To David Balch Junr one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you

are hearby required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of the South ward in Said Town that are Qualified by Law for Voting to Convean together att the meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the Thirteenth Day of July Instant att Three of the Clock after noon

1 To See if the Town Will New buield the River Bridge

2 To Choose a Comtee to New Build the River bridge or Come into any other meathod as to building or reparing said bridge as the Town shall think proper

3 to see If the Town will order the Town Treasurer to Receive of Deacon George Bixby & Leut Samll Smith a Comtee that was Chosen to sell the Ropes and other Small articals that belonged to the Town The money that the Ropes and other things was Sold for for the Towns use

4 To See If the Town will Choose an agent or agents to appear at the next Court of General Sessions of the place to be holden at Salem on the Second Tuesday of July Corrant in behalf of the Town respecting the return of a Jury that was appointed to Estemate the Damage Done to Capt Benja Town and others by reason of a High way being Layd through thir Land by a Comtee in the year 1761

5 To See if the town will order the Town Treasurer to receve the money that the Comtee sold the Two Squar pews in the meeting House Gallerys for

6 To See If the Town will purches one or both of the Two Squair pews In the meeting house Gallerys of Doct Richard Dexter and others who Determin to Dispose of one or both of said pews and Give the town the offer of purchasing them

7 To See If the town will Except the return of the Comtee that was Last Chosen to Seat the people in the meeting house with Sum amendment

8 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof Fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doing thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of sd town at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield July 5th 1762

Simon Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jeremiah Averell	
John Balch	
Joseph Andrew	
Stephen Perkins	

this is a true Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne town Clerk

proper returns being made on both warrants the meeting followeth

At a Legal town meeting in Topsfield July 13th 1762

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen Modreator for said meeting
Voted

2 the Town agreed to build the River Bridge as soon as they Can Conveantly
Voted

3 Missers Zacchus Gould Thomas Symonds and David Balch are Chosen a Comtee to mend or new build the River Bridge as they in their Judgement shall think Proper
Voted

4 The town Voted that Mr Stephen Foster Town Treasurer shall Receive the money of Deacon George Bixby and Leut Saml Smith for the Ropes and other things they sold the said Treasurer to Receve for the use of the town

5 It was put to vote to see if the town would Except of the Comtee Return that was Last Chosen to Seat the people in the meeting house and it past in the Negative

6 The town allowed to Mr Jeremiah Averell and Mr David Perkins Two pounds Thirteen Shillings it being what Samll Phippan Junr was Rated in Thire Lists £2 13 0 Voted

Topsfield ss To John Perkins one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In His Majesties Name you are hearby Required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and Other Inhabatants of the North Ward In Said Town that are by Law qualified for voting to Convean and meet together att the Meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Seventh Day of September Next at one of the Clock after noon

1 To See how much money the Town Will agree to raise to Defray the Nessary Charges arising Within Said Town the Year Insuing

2 To See if the town Will Except of the Reporte of the Comtee Selling the Two Square pews in the meeting House Gallaryes

3 To See If the Town Will purches one or both of the Square pews In the meeting House Gallaries of Mr Richd Dexter and others as thay Determine to Sell one or Both of Said pews and to Give the Town the offer of purching one or Both of them

4 To Choose Jury men for Newbury Court according to Venire

5 To Consider and act any thing that the town Shall think proper Respecting new Building the River Bridge

6 to See If the Town will accept of the report of the Comtee Selling the Ropes and other things that was not usd about

Building the meeting house and order the Town Treasurer to Receive the money Said Ropes and other things were Sold for

7 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your Doing thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of sd Town att time and place above mentioned

Topsfield August 27th 1762

Siomon Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Andrew	
Jeremiah Avirell	

This is a true Copy of the Warrant

attest Richard Towne Town Clerk

Proper Returns Being made on Both warrants the meeting folleth

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield Sept 7th 1762

1 Capt Benja Towne was Choosen modreator for said meeting
Voted

2 The agreed to Raise one Hundred and forty pounds to Defray the Charges of the Town the year Insuing Including the Revd Emerson Sallary In Said Sum
Voted

3 The Town Excepted of the Comtee Report of Selling the Two Square pews in the front Gallary a Joyning to the Back pews
Voted

4 It was put to Vote to See if the Town would purchis the Two Squar pews in the frunt Gallary and It Past in the Negetive
Voted

5 Lubulun Willdes and Elieser Lake Junr are Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att the New Infearer Court to be Holden att Newbury

6 The town Voted to Leve the Whole affare Wholey with the Two Survoyers to mend or make the Bridge over the River
Voted

7 the Town allowed to Messrs Joseph Gould and Thos mower School Comtee Six pounds to pay Mr Samll Wood for Keeping School three months
£6 0 0 Voted

8 The Town allowed Mr Wood Three months Bording Three pounds Twelve Shillings
£3 12 0 Voted

9 the Town allowed to Elisha Towne what the Wido Joanna Curties was Rated in Mr Jacob Dwinell Lists which is £3 12 0

The Freeholders and Other Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield that are Quallified by Law for Voting are hearby Notified and Wornd to Convean and meet together at the

meeting House on Tuesday the Twelfth Day of October Instant
att Two of the Clock after noon

1 In Order to Choose Jury men for Salem Court according
to Venire Which we the Subscribers have Received from the
Clerk of the Superiour Court

Topsfield October 6th 1762

John Perkins Jur } Constables
David Balch Jur } of Topsfield

this is a True Copy of the Notification

attest Richd Towne town Clerk

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield October 12th 1762

1 The Town made Choice of Mr Stephen Foster to Serve on
the Grand Jury at the Next Supr Court to be holden att Salem
Voted

2 Messrs Solomon Gould and John Gould are Drawn out of
the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at the Next Supr Court
to be holden att Salem

Topsfield ss To David Balch Junr one of the Constables
of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name
you are hearby Required forthwith to worn all the Inhabatants
of the South ward in Said Town that are Qualified by Law for
Voting to Convean and meet Together at the meeting House
in Said town on Tuesday the First Day of March next at nine
of the Clock in the morning

1 To Choose Selectmen a Town Clerk and all other Town
officers as the Law Directs for the year Insuing

2 To See if the Town will Except of the Selectmen Rickoning
with the Town Treasurer

3 To See if the Town will accept of a way Layd out by the
Selectmen from Messrs Philip Nolands and Nathll Low Through
Land of Said Nathll Lows and Land of Messrs John Davies and
Stephen Fosters

4 To See if the Town will purches the House and previlages
that Be Longs to Samuel Phippan for the Use of a School
house for the Inhabatants of the North Side of the River in
said Town at a price that may be agreed on at Said Meeting

5 To See if the Town will agree upon Some proper method
to provide a School House for the Inhabatants of the South
Side of the River in Said Town

6 To See if the Town will order the Town Treasurer to
receive of the Comtee that Sold Said Two Squair pews in the
meeting house Galliers the money that said pews was sold for

7 To See if the Town Will order the Selectmen to proceed in a Cours of Law with Such persons that brought Benja Baley into this Town or the men he Bound himself to in order to Recouer the money that the Town hath Expended towards the maintaince of the said Benja Baley's wife and Children

8 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your Doings there on to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield Febr 14th 1763

Simon Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Jeremiah Averell	
John Balch	
Joseph Andrew	
Stephen Perkins	

this is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest Richd Towne town Clr

Proper returns Being made on Both Warrants of warning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Inhabatants of Topsfield on the 1st Day of March A D 1763

1 Leut Samll Smith was Chosen Moderator for said meeting
Voted

2 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen and Sworn Clerk for sd meeting
Voted

3 Missrs Jeremiah Averell Joseph Andrew Stephen Perkins John Balch and Zacchus Gould were Chosen Selectmen

4 Richard Towne Was Chosen Town Clerk

5 Messrs Elieser Lake Junr and David Perkins were Chosen Constables

6 Mr Stephen Foster was Chosen Town Treasurer

7 Messrs Robart Perkins Solomon Dodge and David Towne were Chosen Tything men

8 Mr David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of Lather

9 Missrs Elisha Willdes John Bradstreet and Amos Perkins Were Chosen fence Viewers

10 Messrs Zebulon Willdes Samuel Commings and Dan Clarke were Chosen hog Reves

11 Missrs Thomas Symonds and Zacchus Gould were Chosen Surveyors of Highways

12 Messrs Nathan Hood and Elijah Porter were Chosen Wardens

13 the Town Excepted of the Selectmen Rickening with the Town Treasurer

14 It was put to vote wether the Town Would Except of a Return of the Selectmens Laying out a Town way for Nathll Low and others and it past In the negative

15 Voted that the Town Treasurer shall Receive the money the Comtee Sold the two Square pews in the meeting house Gallarys for

16 Voted that the Selectmen proscute Such person or persons that they Suppose are obliged to maintain Benja Baley and his family for all the time they have Been Unable to maintain themselves Sence they have been in this Town for all the Costs and Charge the town has Been att for Suporting the Said Benja family Sence they have Been in the Town

17 Voted that Mr Elisha Willdes Be allowd £2 1s 3d being for What Jacob Perkins and Joshua Balch was Rated in his Lists of Rates

18 Voted that Mr Jacob Dwinell be allowed £1 1s 8d being abatement of What William Gallop was rated in his Lists of Rates

and also the Said Jacob be allowed an abatement of Peter Woodbury Rates 0 1 2

19 Voted that Mr Stephen Hovey be allowed 2 0 0 for taking Care of the wid Abigail Hood

20 Voted that Messrs Thos Symonds and Zacchus Gould be allowed 12 6 1 1/2 for providing Timber &c for the River Bridge

21 Voted that the Wido Abial Taply be allowd 1 0 0 for Mrs Hoveys Living in her house in the time of the Small Pox

22 Voted that Mr Zachus Gould be allowed 1 8 4 1/2 for his finding plank and Timber to build the fishing Brook Bridge

23 Voted that Mr Dan Clarke be allowd 0 16 4 for what he was rated for his son Dans head in Mr Daniel Bixbys Lists of Rates

24 Voted that Mr Jeremiah Averell be allowed 1 9 10 an abatement of what John Clough was Rated in his Lists of Rates

25 the Town Voted to allow Mr Thos Symonds 0 4 11 for finding plank &c to mend the Bridge by Mr Jacob Dormans

26 Voted that Mr David Perkins be allowd 1 1 8 an abatement of what Henry Bradstreet was Rated on his Lists of Rates
Elijah Porter Clerk for said meeting

Messrs Eliezer Lake was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of his office on the 3rd Day of march and David Perkins on

the forth of ye said month Messrs Solomon Dodge Robart Perkins Amos Perkins and John Bradstreet were Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of there office on March 12th Messrs Elijah Porter and David Towne was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of thire office on ye 14 and 15 Day of march Nathan Hood Samll Cummings and Elisha Willdes in march to the faithfull Discharge of there office Zaccheus Gould was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of the office of a Survoyer of the Highways and David Perkins was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of the office of a Sealer of Lather Mr Thomas Symonds was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of the offices of a Survoyer The assessors was Sworn to the faithful Discharge of there offices on the 10 Day of May 1763

Topsfield ss To Elieser Lake one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In His Majesties Name you are hearby Required forthwith To Worn all the Freeholders and other Inhabatants of the South Ward in Said Town that are Qualified by Law for Voting To Conven and meet Together at the meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Twenty Second Day of March Currant at one of the Clock after noon

1 To Choose a Comtee to Supply the Town With a Grammer School Master for the year Insuing

2 To See if the Town Will Lett Swine go at Large this present year as the Law Directs

3 To Choose Jury men for the Next Inferiour Court to be holden at Ipswich on the Last Tuesday of March Current according to Venire

4 To See if the Town Will Raise the River Bridge Causey or any part of it this present year

5 To See if the Town Will Give the School Comtee Instructions How to provide fier Wood for the School

6 To See how much money the Town will Raise to Defray the Charges of mending the highways this present year and other Necessary Charges within Said Town as the Town shall think proper

7 To See what Methard the Town Will Come into to mend the Highways this Present year

8 To Choose Survoyer of Clabords and Shingles

9 To See if the Town Will Give or Sell to Samuel Phippan the Land that his House Stands on or if they Choose to Sell it to Say for how much money and apoint a man to Receive the money

10 To Choose Town officers in the Roam of Such as Shall Refuse to Serve

11 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doing thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield March 10th 1763

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Balch	
Zacchus Gould	
Joseph Andrew	
Stephen Perkins	

this is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne town Clr

Proper Returns Being made on both Warrants of Worning the Inhabatants of the Town the meeting followeth

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield March 22nd 1763

1 Leut Samll Smith Was Chosen moderator for said meeting
Voted

2 Jeremiah Averell was Chosen and Sworn Clerk for said meeting
Voted

3 Messrs Elijah Porter Solomon Dodge and Samll Cummings was Chosen a Comtee to Supply the Town with a Grammer School Master
Voted

4 the Town agreed that Swine Shall go at Large this present year as the Law Directs
Voted

5 David Balch Jur was Chosen Grand Jury man for the year Insuing
Voted

6 Missrs Luke Averell and Daniel Bixby was Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at the Next Infearour Court to be holden at Ipswich

The Town agreed to Raise So much of the River Bridge Causaway this Present Year as the money raised to Defray the Charges of mending high ways will Do Besides mending the other ways
Voted

7 Voted the present meeting be adjurned till to morrow at two of the Clock after noon

Att Said meeting held By adjurnment on the 23rd Day of March 1763

8 The Town Voted to raise the Sum of one Hundred Pounds to be assessed by the Selectmen on poles and estates within the same to Defray the Charges in said Town of mending the high-ways and other Nesessary Charges in said Town and to be paid in to the Town Treasury for the use aforesaid

9 Voted that the Sum of Sixty Pounds of Said assentment shall be appropriated to the Use of mending the highways in Said Town agreebal to the following method (Viz) that the Selectmen Shall Exhibit a List of what Each of the Inhabatants of said Towns Just proportion to Said Sixty pounds is as well in Labour as in money to the Survoyer of highways Labour to be Estimated at the following price (Viz) a man With Suitable matirealls 2s pr day on pair of oxen one Shilling pr Day and a Cart or Tumbrall 1s pr Day and Said Survoyer Shall Give Each person Named and Set Down in his List Liberty and Seasonable noties to pay what they are Sett down in his List in Labour at mending Said highways if they see Cause provided they do it att Such Time and place as said Survoyer shall Judge most proper and Said Survoyers shall Keep an exact account of what Each person pays in Labour at mending Said ways and on or Before the fifteenth Day of November next shall return the List and account of What each person shall have paid in Labour To the Selectmen and Said Selectmen Shall Immediately Exhibit the Same to the Constables and Said Constabels shall Immediately Give Credit to Each Person named and Sett Down in Each of their Respective Lists for what they shall have paid in Labour att mending Said ways and the Selectmen shall give orders to the Town Treasurer to Discount to Each of said Constables Such Sum as shall then appear to be Paid in Labour by the persons named and set down in each of their Respective Lists

10 the Town allowed to Mr Nathan Hood and others School Commitee Eight Pounds nineteen Shillings and Two pence for Mr Adams Keeping School four months one Week and Three Days £8 19s 2d

11 and for Bording Mr Adams Eight pounds Seventeen Shillings 8 17 0

The Town allowd to Mr Stephen Perkins for attending att Newbury Court and Salem Court in September & December A D 1761 in behalf of the Town in order to Get the money abated that was allowed Capt Benja Town and others for the New way from Topsfield to middelton £0 16s 0d

1762 for one Journey to Cambridge 0 6 0

for money paid Edmond Trowbridge for his Judgement Respecting Benja Bales Family 0 6 0

We the Subscribers Being Appointed by the Selectmen of Wenham and Topsfield to prambulate on the Line & Renew the Bounds Between Said Towns have mett for that Purpose on the

fifth Day of May 1763 and proceeded in the following manner (Viz) Begining at the Stump and Stones Northward of Mr Theophilus Fisks Barn the North East Corner of Danvers from thence to a Stake and Stones on the West side of the Road Leading to Bunkers meadow from Thence to a heap of Stones by the Brook at the End of a Wall from thence to a heap of Stones on the West Side of Robinsons Island from thence to a heap of Stones by the South East Corner of pigdons medow and from thence to the river

Matthew Peabody	}	for	Samll Tarbox	}	for	
John Balch			Tyler Porter			Wenham
Zaccheus Gould			Topsfield			

To Elieser Lake Juner one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby Required forthwith to Worn all the free holders and other Inhabatants of the South ward In Said Town that are Quallified by Law for Voting to Convean and meet together at the meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Seventeenth Day of may Currant at Two of the Clock after noon

1 To Choose a man to Represent the Town at Greate and Generall Court according to precept

2 To See if the Town Will Releve Mr Jacob Dorman in the whole or in part in the Case of Benja Baleys Law Suit

3 To See if the Town will Drop any other action which they may hear after Commence against Mr Jacob Dorman for the Charge that the Town have allridey Been at for the Suport of Benja Baleys Family

4 To See if the Town will Choose a Comtee to Rectifie sum mistakes made in the former Reckoning with Deacon Bixby and Leut Smith Respecting the Building and fineshing the meeting house and make a full Setterment with them as well on account of what they have in thire hands for what they have sould of the Towns Instrest as for what the Town yett owe them

5 To allow Bills of Charge

Hearof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield may 2nd 1763

Jeremiah Avirell	}	Selectmen of Topsfield
John Balch		
Joseph Andrew		
Stephen Perkins		
Zaccheus Gould		

this is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne town Clr

Proper Returns being made of worning the Inhabatants of
The Town on both warrants the meeting followeth

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield May 17th 1763

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen Moderator for said meeting
Voted

2 It was put to Vote to See if Town would Releve Mr Jacob
Dorman the whole or any part of the Cost of Benja Balesys Law
Sute & It Past in the Negitive

3 It was put to Vote to See if the Town would Drop any other
action Which thay may hear after Commence against Mr Jacob
Dorman for the Charges that the town have allredey Been at
for the Suport of Benja Balesys family and it past in the Negtive

4 Mr Elijah Porter Docter Dexter Capt Baker are Chosen a
Comtee to Rectifie Some mestakes made in the former Recken-
ing with Deacon Bixby and Leut Smith Respecting the Building
& finishing the meeting house and make a full Setteltment with
them as will on account of what thay have in there hands for
what thay have Sold of the Towns Intrest as for what the Town
owes them
Voted

5 The Town allowed to Jeremiah Avirell £0 5 4 1/2 It being
an abatement of Samll Dodges Rated in sd Avirells Lists

6 the Town allowed to Mr Jeremiah Averell 0 1 8 It being
abatement of Capt Nathl Browns Rated in sd Averell Lists
Voted

7 The Town allowed to Mr Joseph Gould £0 0 10 It being
abatement of James Nickols Rate in sd Gould's List

Topsfield ss To David Perkins one of the Constabels of Tops-
field Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hearby required
forthwith to Worn all the Freeholders and other Inhabatants in
the North Ward in Said Town that are Qualified by Law for
Voting to Conven and meet together att the meeting House in
said Town on Wednsday the Twenty Seventh Day of July In-
stant at Six of the Clock after noon

1 To See if the Town Will Choose a man to Joyn with the
men that Middeltton and others adjacent Towns shall Choose to
take Lawfull methods to have a free and Sufficint passage way
made Through the mills Dams that are Erected a Cross Ipswich
River: So Calld: That alewives and other fish may pass up
Said river Into the Natural ponds

2 To allow Bills of Charge

hearof fail not and make return of This Warrant with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of Said Town at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield July 15th 1763

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Balch	
Joseph Andrew	
Zacheus Gould	
Stephen Perkins	

This is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne town Clr

Proper Returns Being made of worning the Inhabitants of the Town the meeting followeth

At a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield July 27th 1763

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen moderator for said meeting
Voted

2 the Town made Choise of Mr Elijah Porter to Joyn with the men that Middelton and others adjacent Towns Shall Chuse: to take all the Lawfull methods to have a free and Sufficent passage way made Through the mills Dams that are Erected a Cross Ipswich River: So Calld: that alewives and other fish may pass up Said River into the natural ponds

Topsfield ss To Eliezer Lake one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majestys Name you are hear by Required forthwith to worn all the freeholders and other Inhabatants of the South Ward in Said Town that are Qualified by Law for Voting to Convean and meet together at the meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Sixth Day of September Next att Two of the Clock after noon

1 To See How much money the Town Will raise to Defray the Necessary Charges arising with in Said Town the year In-suing

2 To Choose Jurymen for Newbury Court according to Venire

3 To Consider and act upon a Petition that may be prefard by Mr Jacob Dorman respecting any action or actions that may be Brought against the said Jacob for his receving and Enter-taining Benja Baley and his family and not Giving notes to the Selectmen

4 To allow Bills of Charge

5 To See if the Town Will Build a School house or housen or to act any thing that the Town Shall think proper respecting the Building of a School house or housen

Hearof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings there on to one or more of the Selectmen of sd town at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield August 29th 1763

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Balch	
Joseph Andrew	
Zacheus Gould	
Stephen Perkins	

This is a True Copy of the warrant

attest Richard Towne town Clerk

Proper Returns Being made on Both warrants of worning the Inhabatants of the Town of Topsfield the meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield Sept 6th 1763

1 Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen Modreator for said meeting
Voted

2 the Town agreed to raise one hundred and thirty pounds to Defray the Nessary Charges of the Said Town the year In-
suing Voted

3 Missrs John Bradstrett and Samll Commings was Drawn out of the Box as the Law Directs to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls att The Next Infearour Court to be holden at Newbury

then the Modrator put it to Vote to See if the Town would adjourn the Said meeting and thay Voted it then the Modreator adjurnd said meeting accordingly to the Last Monday in September Instant To Two of the Clock after noon

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield heald by adjurnment from the Sixth Day of September Instant to the Last Monday of Said month and then met and proseeded as followeth

1 the Town allowed to Messrs Elijah Porter and Solomon Dodge School Comtee for Mr Adams Keeping School Two months and one Week Seven Pounds Thirteen Shillings and Eight Pence
£7 13 8 Voted

2 The Town allowd Mr Solomon Dodge for Cash paid to Mr Dan Clarke for Entertaining a Traverling Woman When She was Sick
0 6 0 Voted

3 the Town abated Peter Woodburys Rate What he was Rated in Mr Joseph Goulds List of rates which was one Shilling and Eight pence
0 1 8 Voted

4 The Town allowed to Mr Joseph Gould nine Shillings old Tanor Which he paid into the Town Treasurer which he Could not

Recover of John Pack for he was not rated for the meadow then Voted

5 The Town allowed to Mr Zacchuas Gould one Shilling and Eight pence 0 1 8 Voted

6 The Town allowed to Mr Joseph Gould one Shilling for worning the Widow Farnam out of Town £0 1 0 Voted

7 the Town allowed Mr David Balch Juner one Shilling for Worning the wido Thomas out of Town 0 1 0 Voted

8 The town made Choise of Mr Elijah Porter to Serve on the Grand Jury at the Next Supearour Court to be holden att Salem

9 Capt Thomas Baker and Leut Samll Smith ware Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryalls at the Next Supearour Court to be holden att Salem

We the Subscribers Being a Comtee appointed by the Town of Topsfield & Boxford to prambelate the Line Between Said Towns This Twenty Eight Day of November 1763 and prambelated Said Line and Began att an apeltree with Stones about it in Capt Asa Parleys field from thence to a Stake and heap of Stones at the Southerly Corner of Bakers farm So Calld Thence to where the water runs Through the Dam Near Simon Goulds house Calld Androwses Dam Thence to a Stake and heap of Stones by fishing Brook on the Easterly Side of a revilat runing into Said Brook thence as said Brook runs to Ipswich River So Calld thence up Said River to Middelton Line

Ebenezer Killam	} Comtee for	Joseph Andrew	} Comtee for
Thomas Wood		Boxford	

We the Subscribers being Impowered to Prambluate ye Line and renew ye Bounds Between Topsfield and Danvers have mett this 28 Day of November A D 1763 Viz Beginning att a White Oak Stump with Stones about it Standing about one Rod and an half northeasterly from The^o Fisks Barn Near wenham Causaway from thence to a Black Oak Stump with a heap of Stones Standing in Daniel Gotts Dec^d Orchard from thence to a heap of Stones att the Bend of a wall where a run or Stow Emties it Self out of Archolues Reas Land into Israel Andrew from thence to a heap of Stones on the Land Belonging to the Heirs of ye Hon^o Tim^o Lyndell Esqr Decd near Nickoles Brook So on the Same Course to Said Brook near the remain of an old Sawmill Comonly Calld Porters Saw Mill

Arch Dale	} Danvers	John Balch	} Topsfield
Oliver Putnam		Enos Knights	
Joseph Putnam Jr		Samll Cummings	
George Wiat Juner			

We the Subscribers being appointed to Prambulate and renew the bounds Between Topsfield and Middeltton accordingly mett this Twenty Eight Day of November 1763 and renewed the Bounds Begining att a heap of Stones in the Brook near whare Porters Sawmill Stood which is a Bound between Danvers and Topsfield from thence as the Brook runs to a Small Elmn tree at the Northeasterly Branch of Said Brook Thence as the North-easterly Branch runs to a heap of Stones by the River

Daniel Robinson	}	John Balch	}
Joseph Symonds		Enos Knights	
Paul Averill		Samll Cummings	

We the Subscribers Selectmen of Ipswich & Topsfield met ye 27th Day of February A. D. 1764: and Perambulated the line & Renewed ye Bounds betwen said Towne: and Begun at the River at the Mouth of Howlett Brook So Called so by sd Brook to a Stake & Stones in Nelands Mead^w from thence to a stake & heep of Stones on a hill & from thence to a Stake Standing in a grate Spring in Conants Meadow: from thence to a heap of Stones about Eight Rods Westward from the Brook Near Stephen Fosters house from thence on a Strate line Runing by Burnams Land to a Black oake tree at the Bottom of ye hill being the Corner of Perkins Land so on to ye Pond & so on a strait line to a Black oake in the Wall by Nathan Hoods orchard & so on to ye appel-tree & Stones about it the Corner bounds between Ipswich Topsfield & Boxford

Zacheus Gould	} Selectmen	Michael Failey	} Selectmen
Stephen Perkins		of Topsfield Samuel Lord Jur	

Topsfield ss To Eliezer Lake Jur one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majestys Name you are hereby Required forth with to warn all the free holders & other Inhabitents of the South Ward in said Town that are Quallified by Law for Voting to Conven & Meet Together at the Meeting House in sd Town on Tuesday the Sixth day of March Next at Nine of the Clock in the fore Noon

1ly To Choose Select Men Town Clerk & all other Town Officers for the year Ensuing as the Law Directs

2ly To See if the Town Will accept of the Select Mens Reckening With the Town Treasurer

3ly To See if the Town will abate to Mr Jacob Dormon five dollars of the Charge that the Town was at for the Surpport of Benja Bales famely in the year 1762

4ly To See if the Town Will Build a School house or housen

5ly To See if the Town Will agree upon proper place to build a School house or housens on: or to act any thing the Town shall think proper Respecting a school house or housen

6ly To see if the Town will accept of the Select Mens altering the Road through Land of David Perkins & Philip Towne in Lieue of the anciant Road through said Mens Land so far as it is altered

7ly To see if the Town Will help Deac George Bixby & others Mend & keep in Repair the Bridge a Crost the River in Topsfield Called Rowly Bridg agreeable to a petition that may be Prepared to the Town by the said George Bixby & others

8ly To see if the Town Will agree to lett John Balch have a peac of land belonging to the Town adjoining to the River Bridg Causey in Lieue of the Land that was taken from him to Build the Causey on: and Remove the fence up to sd Causey at the Towns Charg

9ly To see if the Town Will accept the Return of Capt Thomas Baker & others a Commette Chosen to Reckon With the Commette that Built & finished the meeting house Respecting the Remaining Charges that hath a Risen for Building & finishing sd meeting house

10ly To Choose a Committee to supply the Town with a grammer School Master the year Insuing

11ly To see if the Town will lett Swine go at large the year Insuing as the Law Directs

12ly To Choose Jury men for Ipswich Court according to venire

13ly To see if the Town will grant the Petision of Thomas Wildes Respecting the abatement of his Tax for ye year 1763

14ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail Not & Make Return of this Warrant with your doing there on to one or more of the select men of said Town at Time & place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield February 28th 1764

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Balch	
Joseph Andrews	
Zacheus Gould	
Stephen Perkins	

This is a true Copy of ye Warrant,

attest David Balch Jur Town Clerk

Proper Returns being Made on Both Warrants the Meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March 6th 1764

1ly Lieut Samuel Smith Chosen Moderator for sd Meeting

Voted

2ly David Balch Jur Chosen Town Clerk for the year Insuing

Voted

3ly The Town agreed to adjourn said Meeting to Tuesday the thirteenth day of March Instant to Nine of the Clock in ye Morning

Voted

To which time said Meeting was adjourned

At said Meeting held by adjournment on the thirteenth day of March 1764

1ly Miss^s Jeremiah Averell Daniel Bixby Zacheus Gould Samuel Commings David Balch Jur are Chosen Select Men for the year Insuing

Voted

2ly Mr Solomon Dodge Mr Benjamin Bixby Chosen Constables for ye Year Insuing Voted Said Solomon Dodge Refused to sarve Constable though Legally Chosen and paid down his fine, five Pounds then the Town Proseeded and Made Choise of Mr Paletiah Commings to sarve Constable the Year Insuing

Voted

3ly Mr Elijah Porter Chosen Town Treasurer ye year Insuing

Voted

4ly Mr Abraham Hobbs Mr John Balch Mr Stephen Perkins Chosen Tything-Men for the Year Insuing

Voted

5ly Mr Thomas Symonds Mr Zacheus Gould Chosen Surveyors of high way for the Year Insuing

Voted

6ly Capt Benja^m Towne Capt Thoma^a Baker Capt Nathaniel Averell Chosen fence Viewers for the Year Ensuing

Voted

7ly Mr David Perkins Chosen Sealer of Leather for ye year Insuing

Voted

8ly Mr John Cree Mr Jeremiah Towne Chosen Hog Reeves for the Year Insuing

Voted

9ly Mr Nathan Hood Chosen Surveyor of Clabbords & Shingals for the year Insuing

Voted

10ly Mr Matthew Peabody Mr Joseph Gould Chosen Wardens for the year Insuing

Voted

11ly The Town accepted of the Select Mens Reckoning With the Town Treasurer

Voted

Remains in sd Treasurers hands £161 2s 0d

12ly The Town Voted to abaite five dollers of the Charge they was at for the surport of Benja^m Baleys famely in ye year 1762

Voted

13ly Miss^s Capt Nethaniel Averell Elijah Porter Aaron Estey

Lie. Samuel Smith Enos Knight John Gould David Perkins are Chosen a Committee to look out sum Proper place or places in the Town to Build a School house or housen for the benefit of the Town and make Report of there doings to the town Voted

14ly The Town heard the Petision of Dea^c George Bixby & others Consarning the Mending the Bridge over the River in Topsfield in that place of the River Called Rowley Bridge

The Town Voted to Mend said Bridge & Causey as they do there othere high-ways for the futur Voted

15ly We the Subscribers being Desired by Philip Towne to alter the Road through his land have Laid out a way through sd Philip.s land and by the Consent of David Perkins have laid out a way on part of said David.s land & on sd Philip.s land to be in Lieue of the ancient Road on said Mens lands as followeth /Viz/ Begining at the North side of the anciant way near said David Perkins house then Runing West Twenty Six Degrees North according to the Needle by a small apple tree in sd Davids land Twelve poles & Eighteen links to land of said Philip Townes Then North thirty seven Degrees west according to the Needle by said David Perkins land Twenty Pole: Then West Fifteen Degrees North Twenty seven poles & twenty links to the edge of the ancient Road in said Philip Townes land: to Extend so far South as to Make the sd way one pole & Eighteen links in bredth

Dated Topsfield February 17th 1764

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Balch	
Joseph Andrews	
Zacheus Gould	
Stephen Perkin	

this is a True Copy attest David Balch Jur T Clerk

The above going way was accepted by the Town Voted

16ly The Town Voted that John Balch should have the land from the River Bridge North-ward between the Causey & Meadow fence for ye land the Town had of the said John Balch last year to Build part of the Causey on; the Town is to be at the Cost of Moven the fence up to the side of the Causey

17ly Mr Aaron Estey Mr Eliezer Lake Jur Mr Nehemiah Herrick Chosen School Committee to provid a school Master for ye Town as ye Law directs Voted

18ly The Town Voted that swine should go at large as the Law Directs this present year Voted

19ly John Balch Chosen Grand Jury Man for ye year Insuing Voted

20ly Archelous Rea Robert Perkins Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Trials at the Next Infearour Court to be holden at Ipswich

21ly The Town excepted of the Reckoning of the Commettee that was Chosen to Reckon with the Committee that Built & finished the Meeting house & Remains due to said Committe that Built & finished sd Meeting house Thirty seven pounds & two pence 1/2

22ly The Town allowed to Mr Samuel Smith & Mr Elijah Porter for there time & Expence at Ipswich & Salem Court to trie to geet sum help in making & maintaing the River Bridg & Causey the sum allowed is two pounds sixteen shillings
£2 16 0

23ly The Town allowed to Mr Luke Averell one pound fourteen shillings & six pence for 234 feet of plank 1 14 6

24ly The Town allowed to Mr Solomon Dodge & Mr Elijah Porter School Comtee twenty five pounds Nine shillings for Mr Angiers keeping School & his Bording from 29 of July 1763 to March 6 1764 £25 9 0

25ly The Town allowed to David Perkins Six Shillings it being abaitment of Enoch Perkins Rates in sd Davids liste of Rates 0 6 0

26ly The Town allowed to Abraham Hobbs Seven Shillings & ten pence it being an abaitment of Samuel Dodge & Nethall Browns Rate in sd Hobbes list of Rates £0 7 10

27ly The Town allowed to Constable John Perkins two pounds three shillings & three pence it being an abaitment of Nathan Wildeses Rates in sd Perkinses list 17/2 and abaitment of the Widow Abial Tapleys Rates in sd Constables list 9/2 and abaitment of one Browne Pole a young fellow that lived with John Herrick in the time of Making the Rates, But a Receipt was Brought from a Beaverly Constable that he had paid their; the sum abaited here was 16/11 in sd Perkinses list £2 3 3

28ly The Town Voted to Simon Gould thirteen shillings & ten pence it being an abaitment of part of his Rates in the hundred pound Rate in Constable Lakes list of Rates £0 13 10

The Persons Chosen into Office att the afore said Meetings to which an oath did belong were all sworn to the faithfull Discharge of there office on the 6 13 16 17 19th days of sd March & April 4th: Except the sessors and Thomas Symonds Zacheus Gould Abraham Hobbes

1764 June 5th: the sessors was sworn then

May 9th 1766. There is taken up by Theophelous Fisk of Danvers. A Rown Mayer as a stray but hath not Brand nor Eare Mark

Topsfield ss To Palatiah Cummings one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hereby Required forth-with to Warn all the free-holders & other Inhabitents of the Northward in Said Town that are Qualified by Law for Voting to Conven & meet Together at the Meeting-house in said Town on Tuesday the Twenty second Day of May Next at one of the Clock after noon

1ly To Choose a man to Represent the Town at the Greate and General Court According to Precept

2ly To see how Much Money the Town will Raise to Defray ye Charges of Mending the high-ways this Present Year & other Necessary Charges within said Town as the Town shall think Proper

3ly To see what Meathord the Town Will Come into to mend the highways this present Year

4ly To see if the Town Will Reconsider the Vote that was passed at the Anniversary Town Meeting on the thirteenth Day of March A.D. 1764. Respecting the Towns Mending ye Bridge & Causey Called Rowley Bridge in the same Manner as they Mend their other ways

5ly To see if the Town will accept of the Return of ye Comtee Chosen to advise the Town Respecting a School house or housen

6ly for the Town to act any thing they shall think proper Respecting a school house or housen

7ly for the Town to have the Petition of Mr Nethaniel Low Consarning a way for him to Come to Meeting in, and for ye Town to act any thing they shall think proper Consarning sd way

8ly To allow Bills of Charge

Here of fail Not & Make Return of this Warrant with your doings there on to one or more of the Select-men of said Town at time & Place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield April 30th 1764

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zacheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
Samuel Cummings	
David Balch Jur	

This is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest David Balch Jur Toⁿ Clerk

Proper Returns being made on Both Warrants the Meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield May 22nd 1764

1ly The Town Made Choise of Lieut Samuel Smith to Represent the Town at the Grate & General Court ye year Insuing
Voted

and there being other Bisness to be dune at said meeting

2ly Lieut Samuel Smith was Chosen Moderator for said meeting
Voted

3ly The Town Voted to Rais one Hundred pounds to be Assessed by the Select Men on Poles & Estates within ye same to Defray the Charges in said Town of Mending the high-ways & other Necessary Charges in said Town & to be paid in to the Town Treasury for the Use afore said

4ly The Town Voted that the sum of Sixty pounds of said Assessment shall be appropriated to the use of mending ye high-ways in said Town

5ly The Town Voted that the high-ways should be Mended in ye same way & manner as they was the last year

6ly The Town Voted to Build two school housen in said Town one on the North side of the River, the other on the South Side of the River

Topsfield ss To Mr Paletiah Cummings one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are here by Required forth-with to warn all the free holders & other Inhabitents of the North ward in the Town of Topsfield that are by Law qualified for Voting to Conven & Meet Together at the Meeting house in sd Town on Tuesday the Eighteenth day of Septem^r Next at two of the Clock after-noon

1ly To see how Much Money the Town will Raise to defray ye Necessary Charges arising within sd Town ye year Insuing

2ly To Choose Jury-Men for Newburyport Court according to venire

3ly To See if the Town will Reconsider the Vote that was passed at the Anniversery Town Meeting held by adjournment on the thirteenth day of March 1764 Respecting the Towne Mending the Bridge & Causey; Called Rowley Bridge in ye same manner as they mend there other ways

4ly To see if the Town will act any thing Consarning water courses through the River Bridge Causey

5ly To Allow Bill of Charge

Here of fail Not & Make Return of this Warrant with your doings there on to one or More of the Select-Men of sd Town at Time & Place above Mentioned

Dated Topsfield August 28th 1764

David Balch Jun ^r	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zacheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
Samuel Cummings	
Jeremiah Averell	

This is a true Copy of ye Warrant

attest David Balch Jur Town Clerk

Proper Returns Being Made on Both Warrants the Meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield Septem^b 18th 1764

1ly Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen Moderator for said Meeting
Voted

2ly The Town Voted to Raise one Hundred & fifty pounds Including our Towns part of the County tax to Defray the Charges of the Town the year Ensuing

3ly Daniel Lake & Nathan Hood was drawn out of the Box to Sarve on the jury of Tryalls at the Next Inferier Court to be holden at Newbury-Port

4ly The Town Voted to Reconsider the Vote that was passed at a Town Meeting March 13 1764 held by a journment, Consarning the Mending & Maintaing the Bridge over the River in Topsfield in that place of the River Called Rowley Bridge & the Causey, it tis to be Understod that the sd Bridge & Causey is Not to be Mended & Maintained by the Town for the futur

5ly Then the town Voted that this Meeting should be adjourned to the Second day of October Next Accordingly the Moderator adjourned the Meeting to said day at two of the Clock in the after noon

October 2nd 1764 The Town being Meet According to Adjournment the former Moderator being Not at said Meeting

6ly Lieut Samuel Smith is Chosen Moderator Voted

7ly The Town abaited to Const Jeremiah Averell 9s 9d it being part of what Jacob Dorman & Joseph Lessler was Rated in sd Averells Meetting house list of Rates and also 7s 7d that Anna Averell was Rated in sd Jeremiahs Rates 0 17 4

8ly The Town allowed to John Balch for his Time & Expençe in the Law sut with Mr Jacob Dorman 1 12 0

9ly The Town allowed to David Perkins 5s 11d it being abaitment of Anna Averells Rates in sd Perkinses List 0 5 11

10ly The Town allowed to Elisha Wildes 17s 1d it being

what Nathan Wildes was Rated in sd Elisha Rates and also 16s 4d that Benja Baley was Rated in sd Wildes Rates 1 13 5

11ly The Town allowed to Constab John Perkins 16s 11d it being for what the Wido Hubbord was Rated in his list and also 16s 11d it being for what Benja Baley was Rated in sd Perkinses list of Rates 1 13 10

12ly The Town Voted to Reconsider the Vote that was passed on the first day of this meeting that is on the 18 day of Septemb^b 1764 Concerning the Mending & Maintaining the Bridge & Causey Commonly Called Rowley Bridge it tis to be Understod that the Town is to mend & Maintain the sd Bridge & Causey as was Voted at ye Town Meeting March 13th 1764

13ly Mr Solomon Dodge was Chosen to Sarve on the gran Jury at the next Superiar Court at Salem

14ly Capt John Bordman & Simon Gould was drawn out of the Box to sarve on the Jury of Tryalls at the next Superior Court to be holden at Salem

Topsfield ss To Mr Pelatiah Cummings one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are Required forth with to Warn all the free holders & other inhabitants of the North-Ward in said town by Law qualified for Voting to Conven & Meet Together at the Meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the fifth day of March Next at Nine of the Clock in the Morning

1ly To Choose Select men a Town Clerk & all other Town Officers for the year ensuing as the Law Directs

2ly To see if the Town Will Accept of the Select-mens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer

3ly To Choose a Comtee to Supply the Town with a Grammer School Master the year Ensuing

4ly To see if the Town will grant the Petition of Mr Nethaniel Low Respecting a way for him that he wants

5ly To See if the Town Will Lett Swine go at Large the year Ensuing as the Law Directs

6ly To See if the Town will Accept of a way laid out by ye Select-men through Land of Mr Jacob Townes & through Land of Mr Samuel Cummings

7ly To Choose jury-Men for Ipswich Court According to Venire

8ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail Not & make Return of this Warrant with your Doings there on to one or More of the Selectmen of sd Town at Time & place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield February 12th 1765

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
David Balch Jur	
Zaccheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	

This is a True Copy of the Warrant

Attest David Balch Jur Town Clerk

Proper Returns Being made on both Warrants the Meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March 5th 1765

1ly Capt Thomas Baker Chosen Moderator for said meeting
Voted

2ly Missrs Jeremiah Averell Daniel Bixby Zaccheus Gould
Stephen Perkins John Perkins Jur Chosen Selectmen and also
Sessors for the year Ensuing Voted

3ly David Balch Jur Chosen Town Clerk for the year Ensuing
Voted

4ly Mr Abraham Hobbes Mr Samuel Commings Chosen
Constables for the year Ensuing Voted

5ly Mr Elijah Porter Chosen Town Treasurer for the year
Ensuing Voted

6ly Mr Eliezer Lake Junr Lieut Luke Averell Mr Jacob
Kimball are Chosen Tythen-Men for the year Ensuing Voted

7ly Capt Thomas Baker Mr Joseph Gould Chosen Surveyors
of highways for the year Ensuing Voted

8ly Mr Solomon Dodge Mr Jacob Averell Mr John Bradstret
Chosen fence-Vewers for the year Ensuing Voted

9ly Mr David Perkins Chosen Sealer of Leather for ye year
Ensuing Voted

10ly Mr Robert Perkins Mr Solomon Dodge Chosen hog-
Reavs for ye year Ensuing Voted

11ly Mr Jacob Averell Jur Chosen Surveyor of Clabbords &
Shingals for the year Ensuing

12ly Mr Thomas Symonds Mr John Gould Chosen Wardens
for the year Ensuing Voted

13ly Lieut Luke Averell Chosen overseer of the poor for the
year Ensuing Voted

14ly Mr Aaron Estey Mr Eliezer Lake Jur Mr Thomas Symonds
are Chosen a Comtee to take Care & provoid a School for the
Town for the year Ensuing as the Law Directs Voted

15ly The Town accepted of the Select-Mens Reckoning with
the Town Treasurer & Remains due to the Town Two hundred

& four pounds thirteen shillings & Eleaven pence not ordered out 204 13 11 Voted

16ly The Town Voted that Swine shall go at Large the year Ensuing as the Law Directs Voted

17ly The Town Accepted the way laid out by the Select-Men through land of Jacob & Joseph Townes & through land of Samuel Cummings Voted

18ly Mr Joseph Andrews Chosen grand jury man for ye year ensuing Voted

19ly Thomas Perkins Jun & Amos Perkins was drawn out of ye Box to Serve on the Jury of Tryals at ye next Inferer Court to be holden at Ipswich

20ly The Town allowed to Mr Elezer Lake Jur School Comtee man for the School Masters Sarvis & for his Boarding ten months and ten days Thirty Six pounds & Six Shillings & three pence Voted £36 6 3

21ly The Town abaited Isaac Perkins Rates in David Perkins list of Rates one pound & nine pence Voted 1 0 9

22ly The Town heard the Petition of Mr Nethaniel Low Respecting a way, and Voted that the way he uses to Come to Meeting & go to Market through Mr Benja Woodbarys land & through Mr Stephen Fosters land shall be Mended by the Surveyors of high-ways as they mend there other ways in Town for the futer; and also all un-Reasonable Incumbrances Removed from sd way

The Persons Chosen into Office at the fore said Meeting to which an oath did belong were all sworn to the faithfull Discharge of there office as the Law Directs on the 5th & 12th & 23rd days of said March

Mr Joseph Gould being Chosen Clerk for the Proprietors of Sticky-Meadow Common-field & he was sworn to the faith-full Discharge of his Office on the 5th day of said March

Topsfield ss To Abraham Hobbs one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hereby Required forthwith to Warn all the free-holders & other Inhabitants of the North ward in sd Town that are Quallified by Law for Voting to Conven & Meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Twenty-first day of May Next at Two of ye Clock after noon

1ly To Choose a man to Represent the Town at the Great & General Court according to Precept

2ly To See how Much Money the Town will agree to Raise

to Defray the Charges of Mending the high-ways & other Necessary Charges arising in sd Town this present year

3ly To See what Method the Town will agree to Mend the high-ways in this present year

4ly To allow Bills of Charge

5ly To See if the Town Will agree that the Select Men shall order the Town Treasurer to pay Docter Amos Putnam one pound Six Shillings & Eight pence for what he did for Mary Cree Late of Topsfield Deacs^d

6ly To See if the Town Will grant the petition of Jacob Kimball & others

Here of fail not & Make Return of this Warrant With Your Doings there on to one or more of the Select men of said Town at Time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield April 30th 1765

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zacheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
John Perkins Jur	
Stephen Perkins	

This is a True Copy of the Warrant

attest David Balch Jur T. Clerk

Proper Returns of Both Warrants being Made the Meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield May 21st 1765

1ly Lieut Samuel Smith was Chosen to Represent the Town at the General Court the year Ensuing Voted
and there being other Bisness to be dun at said meeting

2ly Mr Elijah Porter was Chosen Moderator for sd meeting Voted

3ly The Town Voted to Rais one Hundred pounds to Mend the highways this present year & to pay what is due towards Rasing & finishing the meeting-house & other Town Charges

4ly The Town Voted that forty pounds of the afore said sum should be for mending the high-ways this present year

5ly The Town Voted to Mend the high-ways this present year as they Mended them in the year 1763 Voted

6ly The Town Voted to abait the wido Tapleys Rates in Constable David Perkins list of Rates the sum is £0 7 6

7ly The Town Voted to abait Samuel Tapleys head money in Const David Perkins list of Rates the Sum is 0 4 0

8ly The Town Voted to abait Joanna Curtis Late Deac Rates in Const Eliezer Lakes list of Rates the Sum is 0 4 2

9ly The Town Voted to Mr Elijah Porter for his Time & expence to get the fish Course opened through the mill dams the sum is £4 16 5

10ly The Town Voted to abait 3s 2d of Archelous Deals Rates in Const Joseph Goulds list of Rates 0 3 2

11ly The Town Voted to abait 14s 1d of Benja Irelands Rates in Consta Eliezer Lakes Jur list of Rates 0 14 1

12ly The Town Voted to abait Benja Irelands Rates in Constable Benja Bixbys list of Rates the sum is 0 19 9

Topsfield ss To Abraham Hobbs one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hereby Required fourth with to Warn all the Free holders & other Inhabitants of the North-Ward in sd Town that are Quallified by Law for Voting to Conven & Meet Togeather at the Meeting-house in sd Town on Tuesday the Seventeenth Day of September Next Ensuing at two of the Clock after Noon

1ly To See How Much Money the Town Will agree to Raise to Defray the Necessary Charges arising in sd Town ye year Ensuing

2ly To Choose Jury Men to Serve at the Inferiour Court of Common Pleas & Court of General Sessions of the peace to be holden at Newbury-port on ye Last Tuesday of September next according to Venire

3ly To See if the Town will agree that ye Surveyors shall give Credit to the Several Select men for as many Days Works in there High-ways Taxes as they was a Making ye Taxes in June last

4ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail Not & Make Return of this Warrant with your Doings their on to one or more of the Select-Men of said Town at ye Time & place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield August 27th 1765

Jeremiah Avirell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zacheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
John Perkins Jur	
Stephen Perkins	

This is a True Copy of ye Warrant

attest David Balch Jur Town Clerk

Proper Returns being Made of Both Warrants ye Meeting followeth

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield September 17th 1765

1ly Deac George Bixby Chosen Moderator for sd Meeting
Voted

2ly Thomas Perkins and Elisha Wildes Drawn out of the Box to Serve on the Jury of Trials at the Next Inferior Court to be holden at Newbury-port

3ly The Town Voted to Adjourn the Meeting to the first Tuesday of October Next to three of the Clock after noon

October 1st 1765 The Town being Meet According to Adjournment

4ly The Town Voted to Rais one Hundred Pounds Including our Towns part of ye County tax to Defray the Charges of ye Town the year Ensuing

5ly The Town Voted that the Select men should have four days a peace allowed to them out of ye high way Rates for their Making the high way Rates in June last

6ly The Town Voted to abait Daniel Porters head Rate in Constable Benja^m Bixbys Rate that is £0 14 5

7ly The Town Voted to abait Nathan Wildes Rate in Constable David Perkins List of Rates that is £0 12 9

8ly The Town Voted to Eliezer Lake Jur School Committee for the School Masters Servis & his Boarding from the 14th: of March 1765 [to] Septembr 18th: £21 19 4

9ly Capt John Bordman Chosen Gran Jury Man to Sarve on the Gran jury at the Next Supearer Court to be holden at Salem

10ly Mr Aaron Estey and Deac George Bixby Drawn out of ye Box to Sarve on the Jury of trials at the Next Supearer Court to be holden at Salem

Topsfield Octob^b 3d: 1765 There is Taken up a Stray Ram going at Large by Stephen Adams of sd Topsfield a Whit horned Ram & Marked with a Slit on the Under side of each Ear & hath been Posted as ye Law Directs

Topsfield October 16 1765 There is Taken up a Ram going at Large by Joshua Towne of sd Topsfield sd Ram is whit & hath horns but no Ear Marks and hath been Posted as ye Law Directs

Topsfield October 31: 1765 There is Taken up a Ram going at Large by Stephen Adams of sd Topsfield Sd Ram is whit Marked with a Cross of the left Eare is a Notch in the under side of ye same and hath been Posted as ye Law Directs

Topsfield Novemb^b 2: 1765 There is Taken up a Ram going at Large by Thomas Symonds of sd Topsfield Sd Ram is whit

& hath no horns & hath no eare marks & hath been Posted as the Law Directs

Topsfield Novemb^b 6 1765 There is Taken up a Ram going at Large by Stephen Adams of sd Topsfield Sd Ram is whit hath horns marked with a Cross of the Left Ear & a Small Slit in ye end towards the under side of the same and hath Been Posted as the Law Directs

Topsfield July 10th 1764

A greable Unto & in Compliance with a Petition Referred to ye Select Men of ye Town of Topsfield by Thomas Mower & other Desiring a Road to be Laid out Convenient for transporting of him & other Effects: We have Laid out a privet Road in the following Manner Viz Beginning at the County Road Leading from Middleton to Topsfield in Land of Jacob & Joseph Townes Said Road Beginning & Runing on Near where ye an-ciant way was: the Courses are taken on the Westerly side of Said Road according to ye needle the first Cours North twenty Eight degrees West fourteen pooles & twenty one links Second Course is west thirty three Degrees North five poles & twenty one links to land of Samuel Cummings the third Course is West thirty three degrees North fifteen poles the fourth Course Runs North Eleaven Degrees west five poles & thirteen links the fifth Cours Runs North Six poles & fourteen links the Six Cours Runs North Seventeen degrees East fourteen poles the seventh Course Runs North twenty seven degrees East twenty six poles the Eight Cours Runs North ten degrees East six poles to land of Saml: Towne Jur

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Bixby	
Jeremiah Averell	

This is a True Copy of the Return

attest David Balch Jur Town Clerk

This Return should have been Entered following after the Town Meeting in March 5th 1765 But it was for got

Topsfield ss To Abraham Hobbs one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majestys Name you are Required forthwith to warn all the freeholders & Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town that are qualified by law for voteing, to Convene and meet together at the Meeting house in said Town, on Tuesday the forth Day of March next Ensuing at nine of the Clock in the morning

1ly To Choose Selectmen a Town Clerk and all Other Town officers for the insuing as the law Directs

2ly to see if the Town will accept of the Selectmen's Reckening with the Town Treasurer

3ly To see what meathod the Town will agree to Mend the highways in this present year

4ly To see how much money the Town will agree to Raise to Defray the Charge of mending the highways and Other Necessary Charges ariseing in said Town the year insuing

5ly To see if the Town will lett Swine go at large being Yoked & Ring'd as the law Directs, the year insuing

6ly To see if the Town will grant the Petition of Theophilus Fisk of Danvers, Respecting his house and land now lying in said Danvers being sett of from said Town and annexed to the Town of Topsfield

7ly to allow Bills of Charge

8ly To Choose a Committee to Supply the Town with a Grammer School the year insuing

hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and plase above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Febr 18th 1766

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zacheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
John Perkins Jur	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuent to the within written Warrant I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in Topsfield, to Convene & meet together at the meeting house in said Topsfield at time and place within mentioned by posting the same on the side of the meeting house in said Town on a publick Lecture Day

Dated Topsfield Febr 26th 1766

Abraham Hobbs Constable for Topsfield

The Inhabitants of the South ward in said Topsfield was warn'd by a warrant exactly the same as the above warrant, and a return of the same purport of ye above Return, made by Saml Cummings Constable for said Town

this is A true Copy of the warrant and the Returns

attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

The afore said freeholders and Other Inhabatants of Topsfield being Legally Assembled in Town Meeting the 4 Day of March A D 1766, they proseeded and Choose their Town officers for the year insuing as followeth

1ly Capt Thos Baker was Chooosen Morderator for sd meeting

2ly Elijah Porter was Chooosen Town Clerk

3ly Missrs Danl Bixby Zacheus Gould Jeremiah Averel John Perkins Jur & Stephn Perkins were Chousen Selectmen and were also Chosen Assessors

4ly Capt John Bordman & Mr Joseph Town were Chosen Constables

5ly Elijah Porter were Chosen Town Treasr

6ly Missuers David Lake Solomon Dodge and Joseph Gould were Chosen Tythingmen

7ly Missirs Joseph Andrews & Nehemiah Herrick were Chosen Surveyers of highways

8ly Missirs Robert Perkins David Perkins & Thos Perkins Jur Fence viewers

9ly Mr David Perkins is Sealer of Leather

10ly Missirs John Gould & John Bradstreet Deer Reves

11ly Missirs Amos Perkins & David Towne hog Rives

12ly Mr Nathan Hood Surveyor of Clabbords & Shingles

13ly Missirs Jacob Kimball & Simon Gould Wardens

14ly Missirs Solomon Dodge & Robt Perkins Overseers of ye Poer

15ly Missirs David Balch Jur Enos Knight & Capt Thos Baker were Chosen a Comtee to supply the Town with a grammer School as the Law Directs

The persons Chosen into office at the aforesaid Meeting to which an oath did belong took the money oath and were sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their office (excepting Mr Joseph Andrews)

16ly the Town accepted of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer & there Remains in said Treasurers hands
£180 18 7

17ly Voted that the Town mend the highways this present year by a tax Levied on ye pools & Estates as they did the Last years

18ly Voted that the Town Raise one hundred pounds to mend the highways, and to Defray the Other necessary Charges this present year, of which sum the Town appropriated forty pounds for to Defray the Charge of mending the high ways this present year

19ly Voted that Swine shall go at large being Yok'd & Ring'd as the law Directs

20ly on Reading the Petition of Theophilus Fisk of Danvers praying that Topsfield would Receive him &c

Voted that in case said Danvers should set him of, Then the prayer of the petition be granted, and that the said Theophilus be set of from Danvers, and be annexed to the Town of Topsfield, there to receive priviledges, and pay Taxes as the Inhabitants of Topsfield Do to all Intents & purposes

21ly Voted that Eliezer Lake Jur. & Others the school Comtee be allowed Twenty pounds two shillings & nine pence to pay for the School being kept from Sept 18th 1765 to Mar^h 10th 1766

22ly Voted that Capt Thos Baker be allowed £0 14s 3d for what he paid for stones to build a bridge

23ly Voted that Mr Eliezer Lake Jur be allowed £0 13s 7d being abatement of what Willm Herrick was tax'd in said Lakes List

Mr Joseph Gould was Chosen to Serve on ye Grand Jury ye year insuing

Jeremiah Town & Nehemiah Herrick Draw'd out of ye Box to Serve on ye Jury of Tryals

March 4th 1765 Mr Joseph Gould was sworn as Clerk of the Sticky Meadow Common fields (So Call'd)

pr Elijah Porter Town Cler

We the Subscribers Jeremiah Averell Daniel Bixby and Stephen Perkins, Selectmen of Topsfield, & Nath^l Kimball Jur. Josiah Ober & Willm Fisk a Committee appointed by the Selectmen of Wenham, met and Perambulated the line and Renewed the bounds between said Towns on the fourteenth Day of April 1766 as followeth (Viz) begining at a stake and stones in the Meadow near Wenham Causey, the northeasterly corner of Danvers from thence northerly to a stump & stones northerly of Mr Theophilus Fisk's Barn, from thence to a stake and stones on the west side of the Road leading to Bunkers Meadow from thence to a heap of stones by the brook at the end of a wall, from thence to a heap of stones on the west of Robinsons Island, from thence to a heap of stones by the Southeast Corner of Pigtons Meadow, from thence to the River

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield	Nath ^l Kimball	} Comtee appoint- ed by the Select- men of Wenham
Daniel Bixby		Josiah Ober	
Stephen Perkins		Willm Fisk	

Topsfield ss To John Bordman one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesty's Name you are hereby Required, fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town that are qualified by law for voting, to Conven and Meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Twentyeth Day of May Instant at three of the Clock after noon

1ly to Elect and Depute one or more persons to serve for and Represent the Town in the Great and Generel Court or Assembly the year Ensuing according to Precept

2ly To Choose a surveyor of highways for the present year in the room of Joseph Andrews who Refuses to Serve

3ly To see if the Town will vote, to shew Cause if any they have on the second Fryday of the May Sessions of the Generel Court, why the Bridge Over Waters River (So Call'd) in Danvers should not be made a County bridge Exclusive of said Danvers

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings thereon, to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield May 6th 1766

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zacheus Gould	
Danl Bixby	
John Perkins Jur	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to the within written warrant I have warned the freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the north ward to appear at time and place within mentioned

Topsfield May 14th 1766 pr John Bordman Constable

The Freeholders & Other Inhabitants in the South Ward in said Town was warned by a warrant Exactly the same as the above warrant, and a return made by

Joseph Town Constable

A true Copy of the Warrant & the return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

The aforesaid freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield being leagaly assembled in Town meeting the 20th Day of May A D 1766

1ly Capt Saml Smith was Elected to Represent the Town in the Great & Genl Court

2ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderator for this meeting

3ly Mr Stephen Foster was Chosen & sworn Surveyer of high-

ways for this year, in the room of Joseph Andrews who Refus'd to serve

4ly The Town haveing been notified of a petition of John Procter Joseph Perpoint and Others (Inhabitants of the Town of Danvers) to the Great and Generel Court, praying that the Bridge in Danvers across Waters River (So Call'd) Might be Maintained for the future by the County of Essex Exclusive of Danvers, and also of the Resolve of the said Court thereon, on the fifteenth Day of Febr. last, that the Several Towns in said County should be Notified to shew Cause if any they have on the second fryday of the then next May Sessions of said Court, why the prayer of said Petrⁿ should not be granted. The Town haveing Considered thereon and unanimously Voted, that they were against the said bridge being made a County Bridge, and also that Capt Saml Smith shall Represent the following to the said Court, why the prayer of said Petition, should not be granted, (Viz) that the Town of Danvers is a very Large Town, and that they Enjoy much greater Previlidges, by Joyning to the Chief Market Town in said County, then the Other Town's in said County do, and that in generel it is a very good Land and well wooded, and that on the County Road that is laid out a Cross said Waters River and there is a very great Trade and much Business Carried on, viz there is one of the Largest brick yards that is in said County, there is also in one place two grist mills and one saw mill and one wheat and bolting mill, and there is a large ship yard many vessels have been already built and they are still building more which Trade and business must be a great Advantage to said Town of Danvers as they Can go with their teams twice in one Day with their wood Timber & plank either to the Brick or ship yard, which trade & Business is still increasing and we apprehend in a little time will be such an advantage to the Town of Danvers, as will much more then Ballance the Charge of said bridge & way and as the Town of Topsfield is a very Small Town, not half so large as Danvers and we apprehend that the Charge that the Town of Topsfield have been at, for a number of years past to Repair their Roads and Bridges, has been Equel to the Charge that the whole Town of Danvers has been at, to repair their Roads & Bridges, as we have two large bridges across Ipswich River (So Call'd) with long Causeys to each of them, which has Cost the Town within about 4 years past, three hundred pounds Lawfull money at least, we have also not less then ten Other bridges the most of which are Considerable large, for which reasons it is the Opinion of said

Town of Topsfield, that the bridge in Danvers aforesaid, Ought not to be a County Charge and much less, that the Town of Topsfield should be at any Charge for makeing or maintaining said Bridge

Topsfield ss To John Bordman one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the free holders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town, that are qualified by Law for voteing to Conven and Meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Twenty third Day of September next at two of the Clock afternoon

To See how much money the Town will agree to raise, to defray the necessary Charges Ariseing within said Town the year Ensuing

2ly To Choose Jurymen to Serve at the next Inferiour Court of Common pleas & Court of Genl Sessions of the peace to be holden at Newbury port on the last Tuesday of September next According to Venire

3ly To see if the Town will agree that the Surveyers of high ways shall give the Several Assessors Credit on their highway Rates for as many Days as they was imploy'd, in makeing the Rates in June last

4ly To see if the Town will give Capt Saml Smith their present Representative Instructions for his behaveour and management of the provential affairs in the great & Genl Court for the futer

5ly To allow Bills of Charge

hereof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doing their on to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time & place above Mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Augt 29th 1766

Jeremiah Averel	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Danl Bixby	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to the within written warrant I have warned all the free holders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in Topsfield, to appear at time and place within Mentioned by posting the same on the meeting house on A publick lecter Day in said Town
pr John Bordman Constable

The freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the south ward in said Town was warned by A warrant Exactly the same as the afore sd warrant and a return made by Joseph Town Constable

A True Copy of the warrant and the Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a leagal Town Meeting of the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield Sept 23rd 1766

1ly Mr Stephen Perkins was Choosen Morderator of said meeting

2ly Voted That there be one hundred pounds Rais'd by Assessing ye polls and Estates to Defray the Charges of the Town and County for the year Ensuing

3ly Missirs Pelatiah Cummings & David Town were Draw'd Out of the Box to serve as Jurymen at Newbury port Court next

4ly Voted that Missirs Stephen Perkins George Bixby John Gould Jeremiah Averel & Capt John Bordman, be a Comtee to Draw Instructions for to be given to Capt Saml Smith for his future Conduct in the Genl Court

5ly Voted that there be Allow'd to ye wido Joanna Clarke fourteen shillings and three pence £0 14s 3d

for the abatement of what her late husband Elijah Clarke was Tax'd in Constable Benja Bixby's List for Isaac Peabodys head

6ly Voted that the said Meeting be adjurned to the Twenty first Day of October next at three of the Clock afternoon and accordingly ye sd Meeting was Adjurned

At A leagal Town Meeting held by Adjurnment on the Twenty first of October 1766

Mr Stephen Perkins Morderator

1ly David Balch Jur was Choosen & Sworn Cler for said meeting

2ly Voted that the said Meeting be further Adjurned to ye Twenty seventh Day of October Instant at three of ye Clock afternoon and accordingly said meeting was Adjurn'd

At A leagal Town meeting held by Adjurnment the Twenty seventh Day of October A D 1766

Mr Stephen Perkins Morderator

1ly Voted that the following instructions be given to Capt Saml Smith our Representative Viz

To Capt Saml Smith our Representative, Sir as we your Constituants have been informed that the General Court are to take into Consideration at there next Sessions the Damages that was done by a number of Riotious persons in the Town of Boston the last year, on which Ocation we have taken this Oppertunity to let you know our Opinion, and Desire to Conduct

your self accordingly, we have heard that his Honour the Lieut Governor Mr Oliver the Seccretary Mr Hollowell and Mr Story all Suffer'd loss and Damage by said Disturbances, but on what account we know not, but if it shall appear to you that the above said Gentlemen or either of them suffer'd by being actually engag'd for the good of his Majesties Subjects in this Province, in such a Case it is our Opinion that when proper Application is made to said Court, by said sufferers, it Ought to be maturely Consider'd off by said Court, and they have a proper Allowance made them out of the Province Treasury, but in case it shall appear to be on any Other account we Apprehend it to be of very Bad Tendency to draw money out of the Province Treasury, for such Damages, and would have you by no means Consent thereto. However as to making good such Damages to such sufferers we hear is recommended to this Province by his Majesty our Graccious Sovereign under whose mild and wise Government we Injoy so many valuable Libertys and prevelidges as well as Great kindness which we Receive from him, an Instance of which we have lately Experienced in his being Gracciously pleased to hear and Grant the petition of his subjects on this Continent in the Repeal of the stamp act &c we look upon it our Greatest Honor as well as Duty always to Copy after such wise good and Just examples in Consideration whereof in case the said sufferers shall make application for it, we are heartily willing to give them as much as our ability and low Circomstances will admit of provided we may Do it either by Subscription or by Contribution as in case of Calamitious Accidents by fire which we take to be much more agreeable to the Constitution of a free people and the Constant usage of this Government

2ly Voted that Missirs Enos Knight & David Balch Jur be allow'd Twenty one pounds Nineteen Shillings & 4d £21 19s 4d for the school being kept from 13 of March 1766 to 23 Sept 1766

3ly Voted that Mr Nathan Wildes be allowed £0 16s 0d for what he was Taxed in ye year 1765 in Mr Abraham Hobbs List and Mr Pelatiah Cummings List for ye year 1764

4ly Mr Stephen Perkins was Chooosen Grand Juryman to Serve at the Supr Court at Salem

5ly Capt Thos Baker and Elijah Porter were Drawn out of the Box to serve as Jury men at the Supr Court at Salem

6ly Voted that Mr Luke Averel be allowed £0 2 0 for 30 foot of plank to mend the Bridge by Mr Abraham Hobbs

7ly Voted that Mr Jeremiah Averel be allowed £0 4s 10d for the abatement of Will^m Hoods Rates

8ly Voted that Mr Stephen Foster be allowed £0 11s 11d for stones and Other Extraordinary Charge for building ye Bridge by Mr Jacob Dormans

Topsfield ss To Capt John Bordman one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town that are Qualified by Law for voting to Conven and meet together at the meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the eighth Day of Novr Inst at one of the Clock afternoon

1ly For the Town to hear and Consider on a proposed Bill now pending in the House of Representatives and Published by their Order, for the Consideration of the Several Towns in this Province, for granting Compensation To the sufferers, and of free and General pardon Indemnity and Oblivion to the offenders in the late times

2ly To see if the Town will vote that the several Sums Mentioned in the said proposed Bill shall be paid Out of the publick Treasury to the Honourable Thomas Hutchinson Esqr and Others that are severally sett down to each of them in said Bills in full Compensation for their loses and sufferings in the late times of Confusion

Hereof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your doings therein to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above Mentioned

Dated Topsfield Novr 24 1766

Jere ^h Averel	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zacheus Gould	
Danl Bixby	
John Perkins Jur	
Steph ⁿ Perkins	

Pursuant to this Warrant I have warned all the free holders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in Topsfield to appear at time and place within mentioned, by posting said warrant on the meeting house on ye 27 Day of this Inst Novr on a publick thanksgiving Day

Dated Topsfield Novr 28 1766

pr John Bordman Constable of Topsfield

The freeholders and Other Inhabitants of ye South ward in said Town was warned by a warrant like the afore said warrant, and a like Return made by Joseph Town Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye warrant and Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At A leagal Town Meeting of the freeholders and Other inhabitants of Topsfield ye 28 Novr 1766

1ly Voted that Capt Saml Smith be Morderator for said Meeting

2ly the question was put, whether the Several Sums mentioned in the aforesaid proposed Bill shall be paid out of a Publick Treasury, to the Hon^l Thomas Hutchinson Esqr and Others, as Mentioned in said Bill, in full Compensation for their Sufferings in the late times of Confusion, and it passed in the Negative

We the Subscribers met this 24 Day of November A D 1766 and Perambulated the line and Renewed the bounds, between the Towns of Topsfield & Middleton in the following manner begining at a heap of stones in the brook (Call'd) Nickols's brook near where Porters Sawmill stood, which is a bounds between Topsfield and Danvers, from thence as the brook runs to a small Elm tree, at the northeasterly branch of said brook thence as the said northeasterly branch runs to a heap of stones by the River

Thos Cave	} Appointed by Zaccheus Gould }	Selectmen	
Philip Knight			the Selectmen Danl Bixby
Jonathan Knight			of Middleton Steph ⁿ Perkins

We the Subscribers being a Committee appointed by the Towns of Topsfield and Boxford to perambulate the line between said Towns this 24 Day of November 1766 and perambulated said line, and began at an appletree with stones about it in Capt Asa Perleys field, from thence to a stake and heap of stones at the Northerly Corner of Bakers farm (So Calld) thence to where the water runs through the Dam near Simon Goulds house, Call'd Andrews's Dam, thence to a stake and heap of stones by the fishing Brook on the Easterly side of a revilet Runing in to said Brook, thence as said Brook runs to Ipswich River (So Call'd) thence up said River to Middleton line

Joseph Hale Jur	} Comtee	John Gould	} Comtee
Nathl Perley		for Boxford	

We the Subscribers have mett this 24 Day of November 1766, and Perambulated the line and renewed the bounds between the Towns of Topsfield and Danvers in the following manner (Viz) begining at a stake & stones near Wenham Causey being

the Northerly bounds between Wenham and Danvers, thence Run-
ing westerly eight pole to an Elm tree marked D D A T, thence
runing norwesterly about Twenty two poles to a stake and stones
by the edge of a swamp near Theophelas Fisks barn, thence
runing westerly to a black Oak stump with stones about it, in
an Orchard belonging to the heirs of Danl Gott Decd, from
thence to a heap of stones at the bend of a wall where a run or
slow Emties it self out of Archelaus Rea's land, into the Land of
Israel Andrew, thence to a heap of stones on land, belonging to
the heirs of the Honl Timothy Lendall Esqr Late of Salem
Decas'd near Nickols's brook, thence on the same Course to
said brook near the Remains of an old Sawmill Commonly Call'd
Porters Saw mill

John Nickols	} Appointed by the Selectmen of Danvers	Zacheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Porter		Danl Bixby	
Arch. Dale		Stephn Perkins	

We the Subscribers Meett the 26th Day of Febr 1767 and
perambulated the lines and Renewed the bounds between
Ipswich and Topsfield, and began at the River at the mouth
of Howletts Brook (so Call'd) by said Brook to a stake and
stones in Nelands Meadow, from thence to a stake and heap
of stones on a hill, and from thence to a stake standing in
a great Spring in Conents Meadow, from thence to a heap
of stones about Eight Rods westward from the Brook near
Stephen Fosters house, from thence on a strate line Runing
by Burnams land to a black Oak tree at the bottom of the
hill being the Corner of Perkins's land so on to ye pond, and
so on a strate line to a black Oak tree in the wall by Nathan
Hoods Orchard and so on to the appletree and stones about it,
the Corner bounds between Ipswich Topsfield & Boxford

Jeremiah Averel	} Selectmen of Topsfield	Samll Lord Jur	} Committee Appointed by the Selectmen of Ipswich
Stephn Perkins		Daniel Lummus	

Topsfield ss To John Bordman one of the Constables of the
Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and
Directed fourthwith to notifie and warn all the freeholders and
Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town that are
qualified by law for voteing to Conven and meet Together at
the meeting house in Said Town on Tuesday the third day of
March next Ensuing at nine of the Clock in the morning

1ly To Choose Selectmen a Town Clerk and all Other Town
officers for the year Ensuing as the Law Directs

2ly To see if the Town will accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer

3ly To see if the Town will accept of a Return of a way laid out by the Selectmen through Land of the heirs of Deacon Daniel Gould Decd and Joseph Gould in Lieue of an antiant way laid out through said Danl Goulds land

4ly To see if the Town will Accept of a return of a way laid out by the Selectmen through land of Samuel Towne Jur and Others tell it Comes into the way that leads from fishing Brook (So Call'd) to Mr. John Goulds

5ly For the Town to make a new Regulation of the mens names in the Box of Jurors

6ly To Choose a Committee to supply the Town with a Grammer School Master the year Ensuing

7ly To see if the Town will let swine go at large the year Ensuing as the Law Directs

8ly To Choose Jurymen to serve at the next Infr Court of Common pleas and Court of Genl Sessions of ye peace to be holden at Ipswich on the last Tuesday of March next according to Venire

9ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this appointment & Direction to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Febr 20th 1767

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zacheus Gould	
Daniel Perkins Jur	
Stephn Perkins	

Pursuant to the within appointment and Direction I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in Topsfield to Conven and meet Together at time and place within mentioned by posting the same on the meeting house in said Town on a publick lecture Day in said Town

Dated Febr. 25th 1767

John Bordman Constable for Topsfield

The freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the south ward in said Town was warned by a warrant the same as above and a return made, ye same as above by Joseph Town Constable for Topsfield

A True Copy of ye warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town meeting of the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 3 of March AD 1767

1ly Voted that Mr Stephen Perkins be Morderator of this meeting

2ly the Town officers was Choose as followeth viz

Misirs Zaccheus Gould John Perkins Jur Jereh Averell Stephn Perkins Daniel Bixby were Chosen Selectmen, and were Chosen Assessors

Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Cler.

Missrs Saml Cummings Stephen Foster & Thos Mower were Chosen Tything men

Missrs Thos Perkins Jur & Daniel Lake were Chosen Constables

Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Treas.

Missrs Joseph Andrews & Thos Mower were Chosen Surveyers of high ways

Missirs John Bradstreet Solomon Dodge Amos Perkins were Chosen Fence viewers

Mr. David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of leather

Mr. Nehemiah Herrick was Chosen Deer Rive

Missrs Robert Perkins & Saml Perkins were Chosen hog Rives

Mr Jacob Averell Jur was Chosen Surveyer of Clabboards & Shingles

Capt Thos Baker & Mr David Balch Jur were Chosen Wardens

Missrs Joseph Gould & John Gould were Chosen Overseers of the Poor

3ly Voted to accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer and there is £212 18s 10d that was Order'd to be paid to sd Treas., that is not Order'd Out

4ly Missrs Matthew Peabody David Perkins & Simon Gould were Chosen a Comtee to supply the Town with a Grammer School Master for the year Ensuing

5ly Voted that Swine shall go at large the year Ensuing as the Law Directs

the aforesaid Town officers to whom an Oath belong'd took the money Oath and were sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their office

6ly Voted to accept of a Return of a Town way, that is laid out by the Selectmen as followeth Viz

We the Subscribers have the Day of the Date hereof laid a Town way in land of the heirs of Deacon Daniel Gould late Decd and land of Joseph Gould, and is to be Lieue of an

ancient way laid out in said Danll Gould's land as followeth (Viz) Begining at Fishing brook bridge (So Call'd) on the westerly side of the way, then northeasterly by the old way side eight pole to an oak tree, then east thirteen Degrees north according to the needle sixty-one pole in land of the heirs of said Danll Gould, then north Twenty two Degrees East according to the needle in land of said heirs and land of said Joseph Gould Seventy seven pole then north Eleven Dgrees East according to the needle, in land of the said heirs and land of Joseph Gould forty pole to the old way, then northeasterly as the old way now gos to the County road near John Gould's Barn, said way to Extend so far Easterly, as to make said way two poles in Bredth

Dated in Topsfield January 19th 1767

Jeremiah Averel	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	

7ly Voted to accept of a Return of a Town way that is laid out by the Selectmen as followeth Viz

Whereas Capt Benja Towne and Others of the Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield, by their Petition to the Selectmen of said Town praying that there may be a way laid out from the way in Mr Samuel Cummings Land laid out in the year A D 1764 To the highway near Mr John Gould's After Consideration thereon, We Subscribers have laid out a Town way as followeth (Viz) Begining at the Land of said Samuel Cummings on the easterly side of said way in Land of Samuel Towne Jur north 31 Degrees according to the needle 51 pole and 12 links, to land of Thomas Mower, thence north 25 Degrees west by land of said Mowers 6 poles and 3 links, then East 41 Degrees north in Land of said Thos Mower 24 pole, then East 22 Degrees north 36 poles, then north 25 Degrees East 52 pole in land of said Thos Mower, then north 36 Degrees East in land of Daniel Lake by land of Jacob Kimball 22 pole, then north 37 Degrees East in Land of said Jacob Kimball 34 pole, then north 36 Degrees East in Land of Simon Gould 16 pole, then north 1 Degree west 34 pole in said Simon Gould's land, then north 29 Degrees west in land of David Balch & Eliezer Lake 6 pole to the River a little below the bridge, then north about 29 Degrees west in Land of John Gould 24 pole, then north 12 Degrees East in land of Simon Gould 44 pole, then north 29 Degrees East 18 pole, then north 16 Degrees west by land of said John Gould 5 pole, then north 16 Degrees west in land of Joseph Gould by land of said John

Gould and Zaccheus Gould 65 pole, then north 31 Degrees west 36 pole in said Joseph Gould's land to the Road leading from fishing Brook So Call'd to Topsfield Meeting House, said way to Extend so far west as to make the way two pole wide

Dated Topsfield January 19th 1767

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
Stephen Perkins	

8ly Voted that the following mens names should be put into the Box for Jury men Viz Missirs Stephen Perkins Daniel Bixby John Balch & Elisha Wildes should be put into the Sup^r Box

And Missirs Isaac Averel Jacob Averel Jur Stephen Adams Samll Bradstreet Nathaniel Dorman Thos Emerson Jacob Kimball Jacob Peabody Joseph Perkins Zebulun Perkins Saml Perkins Daniel Reddington Francis Towne Jacob Towne John Baker Jur Daniel Clarke John Cree Daniel Estey Theophilus Fisk Nathaniel Fisk John Gould Jur. Enos Knight Moses Perkins Othniel Thomas Saml Towne Jur Daniel Towne should be put into the Infr Box

9ly Voted that the following names should be taken out of the Box of Jurors Viz Deaⁿ George Bixby Capt Nathl Averell & Mr Luke Averell

10ly Mr Thos Symonds was Chooosen to serve as Grand Jury man for the year Ensuing

11ly Missrs Isaac Averell & Francis Towne were Draw'd out of the Infr Box to serve on ye pety Jury at ye Infr Court to be holden at Ipswich on ye last Tuesday of March 1767

12ly Voted that Capt Thos Baker and Others ye School Comtee be allowed £19 0s 9d for the school being kept from 23 of September 1766 to the 3 of March 1767

The Town officers for the year 1767 were sworn the 3 6 & 11 of March 1767

March 6th 1767 Mr Thos Perkins Jur. paid five pounds as a fine for his Refusing to serve as a Constable

the 3 of March 1767 Nehemiah Herrick was Sworn as Haward of the Sticky Meadow Common field by Elijah Porter Town Cl^r and Joseph Gould was sworn to ye faithfull Discharge of his office of Clerk of ye Sticky Meadow Common field

by Elijah Porter Town Cler

24 Apl. 1767 Mr. John Perkins took ye oath Respecting the Bills of ye neighbouring Goverments, and also took the Oath of an assessor

Topsfield ss To Daniel Lake Constable of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Required fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of said Town that are qualified by law for voteing to Conven and meet Together at the meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Thirty first Day of March Instent at one of ye Clock afternoon

1ly To Choose a Constable for the year Ensuing in the room of Thos Perkins Jur who Refuses to serve

2ly To see how much money the [town] will agree to Raise to Defray the Charge of mending the highways, and Other necessary Charges arising in said [town] the present year

3ly To see what meathod the Town will agree to mend the highways in the present year

4ly To allow Bills of charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this appointment with your Doings thereon to one or more of the selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield March 20th 1767

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
Stephen Perkins	

Topsfield ss agreeable to this warrant I have notified and warned all the Inhabitants of this Town to meet at the time and place within mentioned

Dated Topsfield March 25 1767 Daniel Lake Constable

A true Copy of the warrant & Return

attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of ye Town of Topsfield on the 31 Day of March A D 1767

1ly Capt Thos Baker was Chosen Morderator for said meeting

2ly Stephen Perkins was Chosen & sworn Clerk for said meeting

3ly Mr. Samuel Bradstreet was Chosen Constable for the year Ensuing in the room of Mr Thomas Perkins who Refused to serve

4ly The Town voted to Raise one hundred pounds to be assessed by the assessors, on the polls and Estates within the same to Defray the charge of mending the highways and Other necessary Charges in said Town, and to be order'd into the Town Treasury for the uses aforesaid

5ly Voted that the sum of sixty Pounds of said assessment shall be appropriated to the use of Mending the highways in said Town agreeable to the following meathod (Viz) that the assessors shall Exhibit a list of what each of the Inhabitants of said Towns Just proportion of said sixty pounds is as well in Labour as in money to the surveyers of highways. Labour to be Estimated at the following prices (Viz) a man with sutable Meterials two Shillings pr Day one per of oxen one shilling pr Day and a Cart or Tumbrel one shilling pr Day, and the Surveyers shall give each person named and sett Down in his List Liberty and seasonable notice to pay what they are sett Down in his List in Labour at Such Time and place as Such Surveyer shall Judge most proper and said Surveyor shall keep an account of what each person pays in Labour at mending said ways, and on or before the fifteenth Day of November next shall return a Just and true account of what each person shall have paid in Labour, to the Selectmen and the said Selectmen shall immediately Exhibit the same to the Constables and said Constables shall immediately give Credit to Each person named and set Down in each of their Respective Lists for what they shall have paid in Labour at mending said ways and the Selectmen shall give Orders to the Town Treasurer to Discount with each of the Constables such sums as shall then appear to be paid in Labour by the persons named and set Down in each of their respective Lists

6ly Mr Elisha Wildes was Chosen Constable for ye year Insuing in the Room of Mr Samuel Bradstreet

7ly Voted that Mr Pelatiah Cummings Constable for 1764 be allowed Eighteen Shillings and one penny for the abatement of Willm Hood & Abial Tapley's Tax in his List

Stephen Perkins Clerk for sd meeting

17 April 1767 Mr Elisha Wildes took ye Oath Respecting the Bills of Credit of the neighbouring Governments and was Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of the office of Constable

Topsfield ss To Elisha Wildes one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed Fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town that are qualified by law for voting to Conven and meet Together at the meeting house in said Town on Fryday the Twenty fourth day of April Instant at three of the Clock afternoon

The Selectmen haveing Received Information from Royal Tyler Esqr., that the Comtee of both Houses of Assembly

appointed During their Last Session, to Repair to Danvers and there view a Bridge over Waters River in said Town and Consider of the Expediency of maintaining it, and in what manner it ought to be supported, will attend that service on the 28 Day of April Instant (Therefore)

1ly To Choose an agent or agents appear before said Committee in behalf of the Town

2ly for the Town to give their agent or agents such Instructions as they shall think proper respecting said bridge

3ly To see how much money the Town will give the French family that Topsfield and Middleton are Obligated to take Care of to pay their passage to Cannada and to provide necessaries for their support on the voyage

hereof fail not and make return of this appointment and Direction to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at Time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield April 16th 1767

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Perkins Jur	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuent to the within Appointment and Direction I have warned all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the North ward qualified for voteing to Conven and meet Together at time and place within mentioned

Dated Topsfield Apl. 21st 1767

Elisha Wildes Constable for Topsfield

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the South ward in said Town was warned by a like warrant as aforesaid and a like Return as aforesaid made by Danl Lake

Constable for Topsfield

A true Copy of the warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 24 April 1767

1ly Mr Stephen Perkins was Chosen Morderater for said meeting

2ly Capt Saml Smith Missirs Stephen Perkins & Zaccheus Gould were Chosen agents to appear in behalf of said Town, before the Honl. Royal Tyler Esqr. and Others a Committee appointed by both houses of Assembly, to Consider of the Expediency of Maintaining a Bridge Over Waters's River (So Call'd) in Danvers

3ly Voted to give the French family, (that was assign'd to Topsfield and Middleton to maintain) Thirty two Dollers to pay their passage to Cannada and support them on their voyage

Topsfield ss To Elisha Wildes one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed fourth with to warn the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town, that are qualified by law for voteing, to Conven and meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town, on wednsday the Twentyeth Day of May next Ensuing at three of the Clock afternoon

To Elect & Depute one or more persons to serve for and Represent the Town in the Great and General Court or Assembly the year Ensuing according to precept

Hereof fail not and make return of this appointment and Direction with your doings thereon, to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time & place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield April 24th 1767

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
John Perkins Jur	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to the within Appointment & Direction, I have warn'd all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in Topsfield, to appear at time and place within Mentioned by posting the same on the side of the meeting house on a publick lecter Day in said Town

Dated in Topsfield April 29th 1767

Elisha Wildes Constable for Topsfield

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the south ward in said Town was warn'd by a like warrant as afore said and a like return made as aforesaid by Danl Lake Constable for Topsfield

A true Copy of the warrant & Return

attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 20 May 1767

Capt Samuel Smith was Elected to Represent the Town in the Great & Genl Court ye year Ensuing

Topsfield ss To Mr. Elisha Wildes one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and

directed to warn all the free holders and Other inhabitants of the north ward in said Town that are by law qualified for voting to Convean & meet together at the meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Twenty second day of Sept instent at three of the Clock after noon

1ly To see how much money the Town will agree to raise to defray the necessary charges ariseing within said Town the year insuing

2ly to choose Jury men to serve at the next Infr court at Newburyport according to veniree

3ly to see if the Town will agree that the Surveyers of high ways shall give Credit on their lists of Rates to each of the Selectmen for as many days as they were a makeing the rates in Town last

4ly to see if the Town will agree that the Selectmen shall Draw money out of The Town Treasury to pay ye County Tax

5 To see if the Town will Examine into the state of the Town Treasury, and direct the Town Treasurer what to do respecting such constables that have failed of compleating their payments of money to the Town Treasurer for too great a length of time, after the Time, that was assigned them to compleat their payments

6ly To see if the Town will agree to build a new pound and come into any measures the Town shall think proper to build said pound

7ly To see if the Town will grant the petition of John Lefever

8ly To alow Bills of charge

hereof fail not and make return of this appointment & direction to one or more of the selectmen of said Town at time & place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield Sept 1st 1767

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Danl Bixby	
John Perkins Jur	
Jeremiah Averell	

Persuant to the within written appointment & direction I have warned all the freeholders & Other Inhabitants in the north ward to appear at time & place within mentioned by posting it up at the meeting house

Topsfield Sept. 2 1767

Elisha Wildes Constable

The Freeholders and Other inhabitants of the South Ward in said Town was warnd by a like warrant as aforesaid and a like return made by Danl Lake constable of Topsfield

A true copy of ye warrant & return

attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal meeting of the Freeholders and Other inhabitants of Topsfield the 22 Sept 1767

1ly Mr Stephen Perkins was Chosen Morderater for said meeting

2ly Voted that one hundred pounds shall be assessed on the polls and Estates, for to defray the Necessary charges of the Town for the year insuing

3ly Missirs Jacob Peabody & John Perkins Jur. were Draw'd out of the Box to serve as Jury men at ye Infr Court to be holden at Newburyport in Sept Inst.

4ly Voted that the Surveyers of highways shall give each of the Selectmen Credit for three Days work for their makeing the highway Taxes

5ly Voted that the Selectmen shall Draw £2 16s 5d Out of the Town Treasury, to pay the Town's proportion of the County Tax

6ly Voted that the Town Treasurer shall send an Execution to Mr Abraham Hobbs in thirty Days from this time for all the money of his collections that shall be then not paid, and also an Execution to Mr Saml Cummings in the same manner, and an Execution to Missirs Pelatiah Cummings & Benja Bixby in ten days from this time for the money of their Collections that shall then not be paid, and that the Town Treasurer shall fourthwith give notice to the said Constabls, of the Town intention as aforesaid

7ly Voted to build a new pound with stones, of the same length and breadth within side as the pound in Topsfield is and the stone wall of said pound to be of the same wedth & height that the pound in Boxford is

8ly Voted that Missirs Solomon Dodge Elijah Porter and Zaccheus Gould be a Comtee to let out the building of the said pound to the lowest Bidder

9ly Mr John Balch was chosen to serve as a grand Juryman at the Supr Court to be holden at Salem in Novr next

Mr David Balch Jur was Draw'd out of the Box to Serve as a Jury man at sd Court

10ly Voted that Nehemiah Herrick be paid for plank for the river bridge nine shillings & 4 pence £0·9 4

Voted that John Lefever be allowed and paid what he was Taxed in Mr Abraham Hobbs List of Rates for ye Revd Mr Emersons Land being ye sum of one pound eight shillings eleven pence £1 8s 11d

Topsfield ss To Elisha Wildes one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed Fourth with to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town that are qualified by Law for voteing to conven and meet Together at the meeting house in said Town on Fryday the Thirteenth Day of November Instent at three of the Clock afternoon

1ly To see if the Town will Build the pound (that they voted on the Twentysecond Day of September last to build) by a Tax as they mend the highways or to come into any other meathod to build a pound as the Town shall think proper

2ly to Choose a Committee to build said Pound

3ly to allow Bills of Charge

hereof fail not and make return of this appointment and Direction to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Novr. 6th 1767

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
John Perkins Jur	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to the within appointment and Direction I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in Topsfield qualified for voteing to appear at time and place within mentioned

Dated Topsfield 10 Novr. 1767

Elisha Wildes Constable of Topsfield

The freeholders & Other Inhabitants of the South ward in said Town was warn'd by a like warrant as aforesaid, and a like return as aforesaid made by Danl Lake Constable of Topsfield

A True Copy of ye warrant and return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield legally assembled the 13 November 1767

1ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderator for said meeting

2ly Voted to build the Pound by a Tax as they mend the highways

3ly Voted that Missuers Enos Knight Zaccheus Gould and Isaac Averell be a Committee to build said Pound

4ly Voted to pay Mr Simon Gould & Others the School Comtee Twentyone pounds nineteen shillings & 4d for the

school being kept from March 9th to 26 Octr 1767 exclusive of
7 weeks vacancy £21 19s 4d

Voted to Missuers Stephen Perkins & Zaccheus Gould seven
shillings & two pence half penny for their time in going to
meet the Comtee from the Genl Court about the Bridge over
Water's River (so call'd) in Danvers £0 7s 2/2

Voted to pay Mr Solomon Dodge one shilling & 8d for money
he expended when he went to get stones for a Bridge £0 1s 8d

At a legal meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of
Topsfield, the first of March A D 1768

said meeting warn'd by Mr Elisha Wildes one of the Consta-
bles of said Topsfield

1ly Mr. Zaccheus Gould was Chousen Grand Jury man for
the year Ensueing

2ly Missrs Jacob Averell Jur. & Samuel Bradstreet were
Draw'd Out of the Box to serve on the Jury of Tryals at the
next Inr Court to be holden at Ipswich on the last Tuesday of
March Instant

Topsfield ss To Elisha Wildes one of the Constables of the
Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and
Directed fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other In-
habitants of the north ward in Topsfield that are qualified by
law for voting, to Conven and meet together at the meeting
house in said Town on Tuesday the first day of March next at
nine of the Clock in the morning

1ly To See if the Town will agree to pay the Constables or
Collectors that shall be Chosen for Collecting the Taxes this
present year

2ly for the Town to agree upon what sum to give the Con-
stables or Collectors pr pound for Collecting the Taxes this
present year

3ly To Choose Selectmen a Town Clerk and all Other Town
officers as the Law Directs

4ly To see what Method the Town will agree to mend the
highways in this present year

5ly To see how much money the Town will agree to raise to
defray the Charge of Building the pound mending the highways
and Other necessary Charges ariseing within the Town this
present year

6ly To Choose a Committee to Supply the Town with a
grammer school Master

7ly to see if the Town will let swine go at large as the law
Directs

8ly To see if the Town will accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer

9ly To see if the Town will agree to purchas a bell, and to see how much money the Town will raise to purchas a bell

10ly to allow Bills of Charge

hereof fail not and make return of this appointment and Direction to one or more of the selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated at Topsfield 11 Febr 1768

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
John Perkins Jur	

Pursuent to the within appointment & Direction, I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in Topsfield to Conven and meet together at time and place within mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Febr 20th 1768

Elisha Wildes Constable for Topsfield

The freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the south ward in said Town were warn'd by a like warrant as aforesaid and a like return as aforesaid, made by Danl Lake Constable for Topsfield

A true Copy of the warrant and return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the first of March 1768

1ly Mr Stephen Perkins was Chosen Morderator of said meeting

2ly Mr Elisha Wildes was Chosen a Selectman

3ly Voted that said meeting be Adjurned to Tuesday the eighth Day of March Instent at nine of the Clock in the forenoon at the meeting house, and accordingly said meeting was adjurned

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield held by adjurnment from ye 1 of March 1768 to this 8th of March 1768

1ly Missrs Zaccheus Gould Jeremiah Averell Stephen Perkins & Danl Bixby were Chosen Selectmen

2ly Voted that the five Selectmen Chosen for the year Ensuing shall be assessors

3ly Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Cler

4ly Mr John Peabody & Capt Thomas Baker were Chosen Constables

5ly Missrs Solomon Dodge Jacob Kimball & Robert Perkins were Chosen Tything men

6ly Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Treasurer

7ly Missrs Enos Knight Isaac Averell & Zaccheus Gould were Chosen Surveyers of highways

8ly Missrs Amos Perkins Nehemiah Herrick & Solomon Dodge were Chosen Fence viewers

9ly Mr David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of leather

10ly Mr Nehemiah Herrick was Chosen Deer Reeve

11ly Missrs Danl Reddington & Eliezer Lake Jur were Chosen hog Reeves

12ly Mr Jacob Averell Jur was Chosen Surveyer of Clabboards & Shingles

13ly Missrs Stephen Foster & Jacob Dwinel were Chosen Wardens

14ly Dean John Gould & Mr Joseph Gould were Chosen Overseers of the poor

15ly Voted that the highways shall be mended in the same meethod as they was mended in ye year 1767

16ly Voted to Raise one Hundred pounds to Defray ye Charges of building the pound & mending the highways and Other Necessary Charges arising in the Town this present year of which sums Eighty Pounds is appropriated to pay the Charge of building the pound and mending the highways

17ly Missrs Enos Knight Saml Cummings & Isaac Averell were Chosen a Comtee to supply ye Town with a Grammer School Master

18ly Voted to let Swine go at Large as the Law Directs

19ly Voted to accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer, and there is in said Treasrs hands the sum of £232 14s 7 1/2 not Ordered Out

20ly Voted that Benja Bayley be abatted one pound eighteen shillings & eleven pence £1 18s 11d being what he is Taxed in Mr. Abraham Hobbs Lists and in Capt John Bordmans Lists

21ly Voted that Benja Ireland be abated £0 15s 1d being what he is Tax'd in Mr. Joseph Towns' Lists

22ly Voted that Mr Simon Gould (one of ye school Comtee) be allowed Ten pounds nineteen shillings and eight pence, for schooling and Boarding from Octr 29 1767 to Febr 3d 1768 it being 3 months exclusive of 5 Days lost

23ly Voted that Mr. Abraham Hobbs be abated £0 6s 6d for the abatement of Philip Kneeland's head

24ly Voted that said Abraham Hobbs be abated £0 14s 0d being part of what Willm Hood was Tax'd in sd Abraham Hobbs Lists

8 March 1768 all the aforesaid Town officers to whom an Oath belongs took the Oath respecting the Bills of the Neighbouring Governments and was sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their Respective offices excepting ye assessors & Missrs David Perkins & Jacob Averel Jur. and the assessors March 8th 1768 Mr. Joseph Gould, Came and was sworn to the faithfull Discharge of his office, of Clerk of the Sticky Meadow Common field part in Topsfield Middleton & Boxford
by me Elijah Porter Town Cler

The 16 May 1768 Missrs Zaccheus Gould Jeremiah Averell Stephen Perkins & Elisha Wildes took the Oath respecting the Bills of Credit of the Neighbouring Governments, and was sworn to the faithfull Discharge of the office of Assessors and also took the Oath of assessors for inquiring into the Rateable Estates of this Province

The 17 May 1768 Mr. Daniel Bixby took the aforesaid Oaths

Topsfield ss To Thomas Baker one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed forthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield that are qualified by law for voting, to Conven & meet together at the meeting house in said Town on Wednesday the Eighteenth Day of May next insuing at four of the Clock in the afternoon

1ly To Elect and Depute a person to serve for and Represent the Town at the Great and Generel Court the year Ensuing according to precept

2ly To see if the Town will grant the petition of Mr. Luke Averell and Others respecting a piece of land to set a horse stable upon

3ly To allow bills of Charge

hereof fail not and make Return of this appointment and Direction to one or more of the select men of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield April 26th 1768

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Elisha Wildes	
Stephen Perkins	

Topsfield March 23rd 1763 Received of Mr Stephen Foster
Town Treasurer ye Sum of Thirty three Pounds Six Shillings
and Eight pence in full of this order and in full of my Sallary
to September 2nd 1762 By me John Emerson Clerk

Topsfield December 2nd 1763 Recd one pound Two Shillings
and Eight pence in full of this order and in full of my Sallary
to March 2nd 1763 By me John Emerson Clerk

the Two above Receipts are True Copeys
attest Richd Towne town Cl.

Pursuant to the within Warrant for the purposes therein, I
have warn'd all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants within
mentioned, to appear at time and place, by posting this warrant
by the meeting house Door on the Lecture Day according to the
Custom of the Town

Dated April 27th 1768 Thos Baker Constable

A true Copy of the warrant and Return
Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler.

At a legal Town meeting of the freeholders and Other Inhabi-
tants of Topsfield ye 13 May 1768

1ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen to Represent the Town in
the Great and Genl Court ye year Ensuing

2ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderator for this Meeting

3ly On reading the petition of Luke Averel and Others Voted
that Missrs Luke Averell John Bradstreet Samuel Bradstreet
Isaac Averell Thos Baker Matthew Peabody Saml Smith Solomon
Dodge Robt Perkins Abraham Hobbs & Nathan Wildes, shall
have Liberty to set a horse Stable by the personage wall near
the Meeting house

4ly Voted to abate John Lefever £1 7s 7d part of what he is
Taxed in Mr. Abraham Hobbs Lists

Topsfield March 6th 1758 Recd of Mr Richard Towne Town
Treasurer five Shillings in full for my Sallary to September 2d
1757 by me John Emerson Clerk

This is a True Copy attest Richard Towne Town Clr

Topsfield Novbr 29th 1758 Received of Mr Richard Towne
Town Treasurer Thirty pounds the full of the within written
order and the full of my Salary to March Second 1758

By me John Emerson
this is a true Copy attest Richd Towne Town Treasurer

Topsfield June 18th 1759 Recd of Treasurer Foster fourteen pounds fifteen shillings and Eightt pence in full of the within written order and in full for my Sallary to the 2 of September 1758
by me John Emerson Clerk

Topsfield January 28th 1760 Recd of Mr Treasurer Foster Thirty pounds money the full of this order and in full for my Sallary to March 2nd 1759
by me John Emerson Clerk

Topsfield June 4th 1760 Recd five shillings in full of the Within order and in full for my Sallary to September the Second 1759
by me John Emerson Clerk

Topsfield October 31st 1760 Recd five pounds in full of ye Within Written order and in full for my Sallary to March 2nd 1760
By me John Emerson Clerk

these four Receipts above are True as they stand Recorded
attest Richard Towne town Clerk

Topsfield November 3rd 1761 Recd Eight Pounds Eleven Shillings money in full of this order and the full of my Salary to March 2nd 1761
By me John Emerson Clerk

Topsfield May 8th 1762 Recd one pound Six Shillings & Eight pence in full of this order and in full for my Salary to September 2nd 1761
By me John Emerson Clerk

The Two Receipts are true Copeys as they stand Recorded
attest Richard Towne town Clerk

Topsfield Sept 22nd 1762 Received Eleven pounds Five Shillings and three pence money ye full of this order and in full of my Sallary to March 2nd 1762

by me John Emerson Clerk
A true Copey
attest Richard Towne town Clr

the mark of Aaron Easty Sheep is A Cross of Each Ear

Topsfield ss To Thomas Baker one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants, of the north ward in said Town, that are qualified by law for voteing, to Conven & Meet together, at the Meeting house in said Town, on Monday the Eleventh Day of July Instent at four of the Clock afternoon

Whereas a number of the Inhabitants of Ipswich, Wenham Topsfield Boxford Middleton Danvers & Reding, Prefer'd a pe-

tition to the General Court at their Last Sessions praying that a law might be made to Oblige the proprietors of mills on Ipswich River and Other Streems runing into said River in the above said Towns, to make and keep open in the most proper seasons Sufficent ways through their mill Dams for Alewives and Other fish, to pass up said streems to the Several ponds in said Towns, to Cast their spawns &c, said Court has appointed a Comtee to view said streems and ponds, and make report at the next Sessions of said Court, said Comtee appointed Tuesday next for the purpose, but a small part of this Town sign'd said petition

1ly To see if it is the minds of this Town to have sufficient ways made through the Mill Dams on Ipswich River and Other Streems in this Town, which Obstructs the passage of said fish in their way up into the ponds to Cast their spawns

2ly To see if the Town will Choose a man or men, to meet and wait on said Comtee to the several ponds streems and Dams, and use their utmost Endeavours in behalf of said Town that ways may be made through said Dams and kept Open, for alewives and Other fish, to pass up and Down said streems in their proper seasons as formerly

Hereof fail not and make Return of this Appointment and Direction to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above Mentioned

Dated Topsfield July 7th 1768

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Elisha Wildes	
Stephen Perkins	

July 8th 1768 In Obedience to the within Warrant I have warned The Freeholders and Other inhabitants within mentioned to appear at time and place

pr Thos Baker Constable

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the South ward in said Town, were warn'd by a like Warrant as afore said and a like return as aforesaid made by John Peabody Constable

A true Copy of the Warrant & return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield July 11th 1768

1ly Capt Benja Towne was Chosen Morderator for sd Meeting

2ly Stephen Perkins was Chosen & sworn Clerk for said Meeting

3ly The Town voted that it was their minds to have sufficient ways made through the Mill Dams on Ipswich River and Other Streems in this Town which Obstruct the passage of alewives and Other fish, in their way up into the ponds to Cast their Spawns

4ly Capt Saml Smith & Mr John Gould was Chosen, to meet and wait on a Comtee appointed by the General Court, to view the Mill Dams on Ipswich River &c and use their utmost Endeavours in behalf of said Town, that ways may be made through said Dams and kept Open for alewives and Other fish, to pass up and Down said Streems in their proper seasons as formerly

Attest Stephen Perkins Clerk for sd Meeting

12 Decr 1768 David Perkins Took ye Oath respecting ye Bills of Credit of ye Neighbouring Goverments, and was sworn to faithfull Discharge of his office of Seeler of Leather

The Number of white people in the Town of Topsfield
Taken in the month of June A D 1776 amounted to 733

At the Same time the No of Negroes & mollattoes was 25
and at the Same time their was 50 white people and one Negro, that belonged to Other towns but was resident in Topsfield that ware Numbred at the same time

All numbred by order of the general Court

Topsfield ss To John Peabody one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield, that are qualified by law for voteing to Conven and Meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the sixth Day of Sept next Ensuing, at three of the Clock afternoon

1ly To see how much money the Town will agree to Raise to Defray the Necessary Charges arising within the same the year Ensuing

2ly To see if the Town will agree that the Surveyers of highways shall give Credit on their highway Taxes to the Severall Selectmen for as many Days works as they were making the said Taxes for this present year

3ly to allow Bills of Charge

4ly To see if the Town will vote that the Selectmen shall Draw money out of the Town Treasury to pay the Towns proportion of the County Charges which they are now order'd to pay

5ly To Choose Jurymen to serve at the next Court of Genl Sessions of the peace and at ye Infr. Court of Common pleas to be holden at Newburyport on the last Tuesday of Sept next according to Venire

Hereof fail not and make return of this appointment and Direction to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above Mention'd

Dated in Topsfield August 30th 1768

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zach ^s Gould	
Elisha Wildes	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to the within appointment and Direction I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield that are qualified by law for voteing to Conven and Meet Together at time and place within Mentioned by posting on the Meeting House in said Town on a publick Lecture Day

Topsfield Augt. 31st 1768

John Peabody Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of the Waraant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cl^r

At a legal Town meeting, of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 6 Sept. 1768

1ly Mr. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Morderator for this meeting

2ly Voted to Raise one Hundred & Twenty pounds to Defray the Necessary Charges of the Town the year Ensuing

3ly Voted that the Surveyers of highways, shall give the Selectmen Credit on their highway Taxes for three Days Each, for their making the Taxes for Mending the highways

4ly Voted that the Selectmen shall Draw five pounds Twelve Shillings and ten out of the Town Treasury to pay the Towns proportion of the County Tax which they are now Order'd to pay

5ly Missrs Nath^l Fisk & Joseph Towne were Draw'd out of the Box to serve as Jurymen at the Infr. Court to be holden at Newbury port in Sept Inst

6ly Voted to allow Mr Saml Cummings one of the School Cum- mittee for the School being kept 13 weeks and for Bording the school Master said time £9 14s 0d

7ly Voted to allow Capt John Bordman an abatement of Philip Kneelands Taxes £0 6s 6d

Topsfield ss To Capt Thos Baker one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town, that are by law qualified for voteing to Conven and meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Wednesday the Twenty first Day of Sept Instent at three of the Clock afternoon

1ly To see if the Town will agree and fall in with the votes and Resolves agreed upon by the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston at their Town Meeting Septr 12 1768 and Choose a man or men as a Committee in behalf of this Town, to repair to the Town of Boston, as soon as may be to Joyn with Such Others as may be Chosen and sent there by the Severall Towns in this Province, in Order that such Measures may be Consulted and Advised as his Majesties Service and the peace and Safty of his Subjects in this Province may Require

3ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make Return of this appointment and Direction with your Doings thereon to one or more of the selectmen of said Town at time and place above Mentioned

Dated Topsfield Septr 19th 1768

Zach ^s Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Elisha Wildes	
Jeremiah Averell	

Essex ss in Observance of the within written Direction I have warned the freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the north ward in Topsfield to meet at time and place

Topsfield Septr 20th 1768 pr. Thos. Baker Constable

The freeholders and Other Inhabitants of ye South ward in said Town, was warn'd by a like warrant as aforesd and a like Return made as aforesaid by

John Peabody Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye warrant and Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting in Topsfield Septr 21st 1768

1ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderater

2ly David Balch Jur was Chosen and Sworn Clerk for said Meeting

3ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen in behalf of said Town as one of a Comtee to repair to Boston as soon as may be to Joyn with Such Others, as May be Chosen and sent there by the Severall

Towns in this Province, in Order that such Measures may be Consulted and advised as his Majestys Service and the peace and Safty of his Subjects in this Province may require

David Balch Jur. Cler

Topsfield ss To Thomas Baker one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield, that are qualified by law for voting to Conven and meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the ye Seventh Day of March next Ensuing at nine of the Clock in the morning

1ly To Choose Selectmen a Town Clark and all Other Town officers as the law Directs

2ly To see if the Town will Accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer

3ly To see if the Town will give liberty for swine to go at large being yoked and ringed as the Law Directs

4ly To Choose a Committee to supply the Town with a grammer School Master this present year

5ly To see what Method the Town will agree to mend the Highways in this present year

6ly To see how much money the Town will agree to Raise to Defray the Charges of mending the highways, and Other Necessary Charges arising within the same the year Ensuing

7ly to allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make Return of this appointment and Direction to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above Mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Febr 24th 1769

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zachs Gould	
Elisha Wildes	
Stephen Perkins	

Topsfield March first 1769

Being Appointed and Directed to Notifie or Warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabtants of Topsfield qualified by law for voting to Conven at the meting house in said Town on Tuesday ye Seventh Day of March. Accordingly I have Done it, by posting up this appointment at the meeting in said Town on the Lecture Day according to the Custom of the Town

Mr. Thos Baker Constable

A true Copy of warrant and Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 7 March 1769

1ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderator of sd Meeting

2ly Missrs Elisha Wildes Stephen Perkins Jeremiah Averell Danl Bixby Zach^s Gould were Chosen Selectmen

3ly Voted that the Selectmen shall be assessors & all Sworn but D. Bixby

4ly Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Cler Sworn

5ly Missrs Luke Averell Amos Perkins & John Balch were Chosen Tythingmen

6ly Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Treasr Sworn

7ly Missrs Zach^s Gould Thos Symonds Saml Town Jur were Chosen Surveyers of highways

8ly Missrs Pelatiah Cummings Saml Cummings Thos Perkins Jur were Chosen Fence viewers

9 Mr. David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of leather

10ly Mr. John Bradstreet was Chosen Deer Rieve

11ly Missrs. Thos Perkins John Bordman were Chosen hog Rieves

12ly Mr. Jacob Averell Jur. was Chosen Surveyer of Clab-board & Shingles

13ly Missrs Joseph Andrews & John Baker Jur were Chosen wardens

14ly Mr. Eliezer Lake Jur. was Chosen Overseer of the Poor

15ly Voted to accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer and there Remains in the Treasurers hands not Order'd out

£244 9s 11d

16ly Voted to let swine go at large being yoked & Ringed as the Law Directs

17ly Capt John Bordman Missrs David Perkins and Saml Cummings be a Comtee to Supply the Town with a Grammer School Master this present year

18ly Voted to mend the highways in the same Meathod as they did in the year 1767

19ly Voted to Raise one hundred pounds for mending the highways and Other Necessary Charges

Voted that sixty pound of sd hundred pounds be appropriated for mending the highways

20ly Voted to allow Mr Saml Cummings and Others of the School Comtee for the School being kept from ye first of Sepr 1768 to ye first of March 1769

£19 8 0

21ly Voted to allow ye Selectmen two shillings for paper

£0 2 0

22ly Voted to allow Missrs Zach ^s Gould Enos Knight ye Comtee for building the pound	£6 2 8
23ly Voted allow Mr Enos Knight for plank	0 13 4
24ly Voted to allow Dea ⁿ John Gould	0 6 8
25ly Voted to allow Capt Saml Smith	1 2 0
26ly Voted to allow Capt Saml Smith for his time and expences to Boston to meet ye Comtee of Convention	3 0 0
27ly Voted to allow Capt John Bordman an abatement of part of Nathan Hoods Rates for the highways	0 2 0
28ly Voted to allow Mr Saml Cummings 1/ an abatement of Jerusha Porters Rates & 1/ for warning Sarah Bayley out of Town	0 2 0

29ly Mr Nathl Dorman was Chosen Constable

30ly Mr Archelaus Rea was Chosen Constable

Misrs Amos Perkins John Balch Zach^s Gould Thos Symonds Saml Town Jur. Pelatiah Cummings John Bradstreet Capt John Bordman Misrs. Joseph Andrews John Baker Jur. all took the oath Respecting the Bills of ye Neighbouring Governments and was sworn to ye faithfull Discharge of their Respective offices

14 March 1769 Mr. Saml Cummings took ye Oath respecting ye Bills of ye neighbouring Goverments & was sworn as fence viewer

16 March 1769 Mr. Nathll Dorman Took ye Oath Respecting sd Bills and was Sworn as fence viewer

23 March 1769 Mr. Luke Averell took ye Oath respecting sd Bills and was Sworn as Tythingman

27 March Mr. David Perkins took ye Oath respecting sd Bills and was Sworn as Sealer of leather

14 March 1769 Mr. Danl Bixby took the Oath Respecting sd Bills and was Sworn as assessor

The Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, being assembled by the Constable, the 7 March 1769

1ly Mr. Eliezer Lake Jur. was Chosen Grand Juryman for ye year Ensuing

Missrs Joseph Gould & Saml Cummings were Draw'd out of the Box to serve on ye Jury of Tryals at March Court 1769

Topsfield ss To Nathaniel Dorman Constable of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of

the Town of Topsfield that are qualified by law for voteing to Conven and Meet Together, at the meeting house in said Town on Wednesday the Twentysecond Day of March Instant at two of the Clock afternoon

1ly To see if the Town will agree to pay the Constables or Collectors for their services in Collecting the Taxes in ye Town for the year 1769

2ly For the Town to agree upon any perticuler Sum to give the Constables or Collectors pr pound for their service in Collecting the Taxes in said Town for the year 1769

3ly To Choose a Constable for this present year in the room of Archelaus Rea who Refuses to serve

4ly To see if the Town will vote to Excuse Arch^l Rea from paying a fine for refusing to serve as a Constable

5ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this appointment and Direction to one of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield March 16th 1769

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zach ^s Gould	
Elisha Wildes	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to the within Appointment and Direction I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield that are qualified by Law for voteing to Conven and meet Together at the meeting house in said Town, at time and place within mentioned

Dated in Topsfield March 18th 1769

Nath^l Dorman Constable for Topsfield

A true Copy of ye warrant and Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town meeting of the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield ye 22 March 1769

1ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderator for sd meeting

2ly Mr Aaron Estey was Chosen Constable

3ly Voted to Excuse Archelaus Rea from paying a fine for his Refusing to serve as Constable

4ly Voted to allow Mr Zach^s Gould for plank £0 2s 0d

5ly Voted to allow Mr Elisha Wildes an abatement of Benja Bayleys Rates £0 5s 9d

22 March 1769 Mr Joseph Gould was sworn to the faithfull Discharge of his office of Clerk of ye Proprietors of ye Sticky Meadow Common field in Topsfield by Elijah Porter Town Cler

22 March 1769 Mr. Nehemiah Herrick was sworn as Haward and fence viewer of the Sticky Meadow Common field in Topsfield by Elijah Porter Town Cler

Topsfield ss To Nathaniel Dorman Constable of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are Hereby Appointed and Directed fourth with to Warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield that are qualified by law for Voting to Conven and Meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Twentythird Day of May Instent at three of the Clock afternoon

1ly To Elect and Depute a person to serve for & Represent The Town in the Great and General Court or assembly according to precept

2ly To see if the Town will agree to pay the Constables or Collectors for their services in Collecting the Taxes in the Town, for this present year, and for ye future

3ly For the Town to agree upon any perticuler sum to give the Constables or Collectors, pr pound for their service in Collecting the Taxes in the Town for this present year and for the future

Wheras Mr. Aaron Estey was Chosen Constable at a legal Town Meeting in Topsfield 22 Day of March last past and afterwards (Viz) at his Majestys Court of General Sessions of the peace held at Ipswich in the County of Essex in March last past, said Aaron by the Judgment of the Justices of said Court was Judged incapable to serve in said office, whereby there became a vacancy of the usual Town officers in said Town Therefore

4ly To Choose a Constable

5ly To allow Bills of Charge

6ly To see if the Town will Grant the Petition of Jacob Towne Hereof fail not, and make Return of this appointment and Direction with your doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield May 16 1769

Jeremiah Averill	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zach ^s Gould	
Danl Bixby	
Elisha Wildes	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to the within appointment and Direction I have Warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield that are qualified by law for voteing, to Conven and meet Together at the Meeting House in said Town, at time and place within Mentioned

Dated Topsfield May 19th 1769

Nath^l Dorman Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of the Warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield 23 May 1769

1ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen to Represent the Town in the Great & Genl Court the year Ensuing

2ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderater for said Meeting

3ly Mr. Nehemah Herrick was Chosen Constable

4ly Voted that Mr Jacob Town be allowed to work out what he and the land he improves is or may be Taxed, to work at the highways this present year, in Makeing a bridge over a slough for him to get to meeting, as he Petition'd for

29 May 1769 Mr. Nehe^h Herrick took ye Oath Respecting the bills of ye Neighbouring Goverments and sworn as Constable

Topsfield ss To Nath^l Dorman one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Appointed and Directed fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of said Town that are qualified by law for voteing, to Conven and Meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Nineteenth Day of Seprt next Ensuing at two of the Clock afternoon

1ly To see how much money the Town will agree to raise to Defray the Necessary Charges ariseing in said Town

2ly To see if the Town will agree, that the Surveyers of high ways, shall give Credit on their highway Lists to ye severall assessors for as many Days works as they were imploy'd in making the highway Taxes for this present year

3ly To allow Bills of Charge

4ly To see if the Town will vote that ye Selectmen shall purchas weights and Other Necessarys to Draw tue the four Inside Doors of the Meeting house, or to act any thing Respecting the Meeting house Doors as the Town shall think proper

5ly To see if the Town will vote that the Selectmen shall Draw money out of the Treasury to pay the Towns proportion of the County Tax for this present year

Hereof fail not and make Return of this appointment and Direction with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield August 29th 1769

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zach ^s Gould	
Danl Bixby	
Elisha Wildes	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to ye within appointment & Direction I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants within Mentioned to appear at time and place within Mentioned by posting this appointment on the meeting house near the Door
this 30 August 1769

Nathl Dorman Constable for Topsfield

A true Copy of the Warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 19 Sepr 1769

1ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderator of this Meeting

2ly Voted to Raise one Hundred pounds to Defray the Necessary Charges ariseing in said Town

3ly Voted that the Surveyers of highways shall give the Selectmen Credit on their highways lists of Taxes for three Days work each for their makeing the highway Rates this present year

4ly Voted that the Selectmen shall purchas weights and Other Necessarys to Draw too the west Gallary Door

5ly Voted that the Selectmen shall purchas weights and Other Necessarys to Draw too the East Gallary Door

6ly Voted that the School Committee be allowed for the School being kept from ye 13 March 1769 to the 13 September 1769

£19 8s

7ly Voted that Mr Danl Lake be allowed for warning John Starns and his wife out of Town 4/ and for Geting the Constables Staf Done 7/4 and for abatement of Benja Irelands Tax 8/1

£0 19s 5d

Topsfield ss You To Nathll Dorman one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town that are qualified for

voteing to conven and meet Together at the meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Twenty fourth Day of October Instant at two of the Clock afternoon

1ly To see if the Town will Choose a Committee to act in Conjunction with such persons as may be impowered by the Town of Wenham, in straitning the line between Topsfield and Wenham or makeing such alterations in it as they, when Conven'd shall Judge Necessary.

2ly To see if the Town is Willing that Joseph Cummings John Lampson Israel Clarke Joseph Cummings Jur John Lampson Jur and Thomas Cummings with their Estates should be set of from the Town of Ipswich and annexed to the Town of Topsfield

3ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make Return of this appointment and Direction to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield October 13th 1769

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zach ^s Gould	
Danl Bixby	
Elisha Wildes	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to the within appointment & Direction I have warned all the freeholders & Other Inhabitants within mentioned, to Conven and Meet Together at time & place within Mentioned

Dated Topsfield 17 Octr 1769

Nathl Dorman Constable for Topsfield

The freeholders and Other Inhabitants of ye south ward in said Town was warn'd by a like Warrant as aforesd, and a like Return made as aforesd, by Neheh. Herrick Constable for Topsfield

A true Copy of ye Warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 24 October 1769

1ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderter of this Meeting

2ly Voted that Nath^l Averell Capt Sam^l Smith Missrs Elijah Porter Zach^s Gould & Stephen Perkins be a Committee to act in Conjunction with such persons as may be impowered by the

Town of Wenham, to straiten the line between Topsfield and Wenham, or make such alterations as they shall think necessary

3ly Voted that the Town is free and willing that Capt Joseph Cummings Missrs John Lampson Israel Clark Joseph Cummings Jur John Lampson Jur & Thomas Cummings, with their Estates, shall be sett of from the Town of Ipswich, and annexed to the Town of Topsfield

4ly Voted that Missrs Zach^s Gould Elisha Wildes & Stephen Perkins be allowed for Citing Mr. Aaron Estey before the Court of Genl Sessions of ye peace held at Ipswich in Mar^h 1769, for his Refusing to serve as Constable £1 15s 5d

5ly Voted to allow Mr. Abraham Hobbs an abatement of John Cloughs Rates £0 5s 7d

6ly Voted to allow Mr. Thos Symonds for plank £1 3s 0d

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield assembled by ye Constable the 24 Octr 1769

Mr Solomon Dodge was Chosen Grand Jury man for ye Supr. Court to be holden at Salem in Novr 1769

Capt John Bordman was Draw'd out of the Box to serve on the Jury of Tryals at said Court

We the Subscribers Met this Twentythird Day of November A D 1769 and perambulated the line and renewed the bounds between the Towns of Topsfield and Middleton, in the following manner (Viz) begining at a heap of stones in the Brook Called Nickolss Brook near where Porters saw mill stood, which is a bounds between Topsfield and Danvers, from thence as the Brook runs to a small Elm tree at the northeasterly branch of said Brook, thence as said northeasterly Branch Runs to a heap of Stones by the River

Joseph Fuller	} Comtee appointed by the Selectmen of Middleton	Danl Bixby	} Select- men of Tops- field
Saml Symonds		Stephen Perkins	
Bartholomew Berry			

We the Subscribers have mett this 23 Day of Novr 1769 and Perambulated the line and renewed the bounds between the Towns of Topsfield and Danvers, in the following manner Viz begining at a stake and stones near Wenham Causey the north-erly bound between Wenham and Danvers thence runing west-erly Eight poles to an Elm tree marked D D & T thence runing norwesterly about Twentytwo poles to a stake and stones by the Edge of the Swamp near Theophilus Fisk's Barn thence runing westerly to a black Oak Stump with Stones about it in an

Orchard belonging to the heirs of Danl Gott Deceas'd from thence to a heap of stones, at the bend of a well where a run or slow emties it self out of Archelaus Reas land into the land of Israel Andrews, thence to a heap of stones on land belonging to the heirs of ye Honl. Timothy Lendall Esqr late of Salem Decd. near Nichols's Brook, thence on the same Course to said brook near the remains of an old saw mill Commonly Call'd Porters Saw Mill

Archl. Dale	} appointed by	Comtee	} Selectmen	
Tarrant Putnam		ye selectmen		Danl Bixby
		of Danvers		Stephen Perkins

We the Subscribers Danl Bixby Elisha Wildes Zach^s Gould & Stephen Perkins Selectmen of Topsfield, and Will^m Fisk and Matthew Fairfield A Committee appointed by the Selectmen of Wenham, Mett and Perambulated the line and renewed the bounds between said Towns on the 27 Day of April 1769 as followeth Viz beginning at a Stake and stones in the meadow near Wenham Causey the Northeasterly Corner of Danvers from thence northerly to a Stump and stones northerly of Theophilus Fisks Barn from thence to a stake and stones on the west side of the road leading to Bunkers meadow, from thence to a heap of stones by a brook at the end of a wall from thence to a heap of stones on the west of Robinsons Island from thence to a heap of stones by the southerly Corner of Pigtons Meadow from thence to ye River

Danl Bixby	} Selectmen	Will ^m Fisk	} Comtee for	
Elisha Wildes		Matthew Fairfield		Wenham
Zach ^s Gould				
Stephen Perkins				

Topsfield ss To Nath^l Dorman one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield that are qualified by law for voteing to Conven and meet Together at the meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the sixth Day of March next Ensuing, at Ten of the Clock in the forenoon

1ly To Choose Selectmen a Town Clerk and all Other Town Officers as the Law Directs for the ensuing year

2ly To see if Town will accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer

3ly To Choose a Committee to supply the Town with a Grammer School Master the year Ensuing

4ly For the Town to bring in their votes for a County Treasurer

5ly To see if Town will accept of the Return of the Comtee that was Chosen to Straiten or alter the line between the Towns of Wenham and Topsfield

6ly To see what Meathod the Town will agree to Mend the highways in this present year

7ly To see how much money the Town agree to Raise to Defray the Charge of Mending the highways and Other Necessary Charges arising in the Town ye year Ensuing

8ly To allow Bills of Charge

Whereof fail not and make Return of this appointment and Direction with your doings Thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above Mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Febr. 27th 1770

Jeremiah Averell	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zach ^s Gould	
Dan ^l Bixby	
Elisha Wildes	
Step ⁿ Perkins	

Pursuant to ye within appointment & Direction I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of ye Town of Topsfield that are qualified by law for voteing to Conven and meet Together, at time and place within Mentioned by posting this notification on ye meeting house Door on a publick Lecture Day
Topsfield Febr. 28th 1770

Nathl Dorman Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler.

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 6 March 1770

1ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderater of this meeting

2ly Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Cler

3ly Voted that this meeting be adjurned to Monday the Twelvth Day of March Inst. at Ten of the Clock in the fore noon accordingly sd. meeting was adjurnd

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inabitants of Topsfield, held by Adjurnment ye 12 March A D 1770.
Capt Saml Smith Morderater

1ly Misrs. Stephen Perkins Danl Bixby Zach^s Gould Solomon Dodge Joseph Gould were Chosen Selectmen

- 2ly Voted that the sd Selectmen shall be assessors
- 3ly Misrs. Thos Mower & Robert Perkins were Chosen Constables
- 4ly Missrs. Abraham Hobbs John Peabody Nathl Low wer Chosen Tythingmen
- 5ly Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Treasuer
- 6ly Capt Saml Smith Missrs Zach^s Gould Nehe^h Herrick were Chosen Surveyers of highways
- 7ly Missrs John Bradstreet Elisha Wildes & Joseph Andrews were Chosen Fence Viewers
- 8ly Mr David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of leather
- 9ly Mr. Aaron Estey was Chosen Deer Rieve
- 10ly Misrs. Danl. Clarke & John Becker Jur. were Chosen hog Rieves
- 11ly Mr. Jacob Averell Jur. was Chosen Surveyer of Clabboards & Shingles
- 12ly Misrs. John Perkins Jur. & Thos. Emerson were Chosen Wardens
- 13ly Voted to accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasuer, and there remains in said Treasurers hands not order'd out £231 5s 8 1/2
- 14 Misrs. Saml. Cummings & Enos Knight were Chosen Overseers of the Poor
- 15ly Misrs. Jacob Peabody Simon Gould & Archl. Rea were Chosen a Comtee to supply the Town with a Grammer School Master for ye year Ensuing
- 16ly The Town Brought in their votes for a County Treasurer
- 17ly Voted to accept of the lines being altered and straitened between the Towns of Wenham & Topsfield by the Committees of said Towns, which is as followeth viz
- Where as the lines between Wenham and Topsfield are very Integate, and the bounds being in such Boggy Meadows that they Could not Get at them when they Perambulated Therefore ye sd Towns of Wenham and Topsfield have impowered us the Subscribers to Straiten the lines between said Towns, or make such alterations as we think necessary, we haveing mett for the purpose aforesaid, and have altered and straitened said lines and made Monuments as followeth Viz Begining at a stake and Stones near Wenham Causey (so Called) being a bounds between Wenham Topsfield and Danvers from thence runing north 36 1/2 Degrees East 117 1/2 poles to a stake and stones by a wall thence north 15 Degrees East 82 1/2 poles to a stake

and stones at the northeast Corner of Robinsons Island (so Calld) thence north 20 1/2 Degrees East 60 poles to a stake and stones at the Southwest Corner of Wenham Island (so Calld) thence north 58 1/2 Degrees East 29 poles to the river at the northwest Corner of said Wenham Island thence by the River to Ipswich line

Dated December 12th 1769

Jacob Dodge	} Comtee for	Elijah Porter	} Comtee for
Saml Tarbox		Stephen Perkins	
Willm. Fairfield		Zach ^s Gould	
	Wenham		Topsfield

18 Voted to Mend the highways in the Same Method as the Town did in the year 1767 which is as followeth. Viz that the assessors shall Exhibit a list of what each of the Inhabitants (of said Town) Just proportion is of the sum that shall be appropriated for mending the highways and Each persons proportion is as well paid in Labour, as in money, to the Surveyers of highways, Labour to be Estimated at the following prices Viz a man with sutable materials two Shillings pr Day one per of Oxen one Shilling pr. Day and a Cart or Tumbrel one Shilling pr. Day and the Surveyers shall give Each person named and sett Down in his List Liberty and Seasonable Notice to pay what they are set Down in his List in labour at such time and place as such Surveyer shall Judge most proper, and said Surveyer shall keep an account of what each person pays in Labour at Mending said ways, and on or before the fifteenth Day of November next, shall Return a Just and true account of what Each person shall have paid in Labour, to the Selectmen, and the said Selectmen shall immediately Exhibit ye same to ye Constables & sd Constables shall immediately give Credit to each person named and sett Down in Each of their Respective Lists, for what they shall have paid in Labour, at mending said ways and the Selectmen shall give orders, to the Town Treasurer to Discount with each of ye Constables such sums as shall then appear to be paid in Labour, by the persons named and set Down in Each of their Respective Lists

19ly Voted to Raise one hundred pounds to Defray the Charge of Mending the highways and Other Necessary Charges ariseing in ye Town ye year Ensuing

Voted to appropriate Sixty pounds of said hundred pounds for to Defray the Charge of Mending the highways this present year

20ly Voted to allow Capt John Bordman and Others the School Comtee for the Schools being kept five months and five

Days £11 9s 6 1/4 and for Boarding ye School Master sd time
£5 7s 4d £16 16s 10 1/4

21ly Voted to allow Mr Stephen Perkins for paper £0 2s 3d

22ly Voted to allow Mr Nathl Dorman for warning one Town
Meeting £0 6s 0d

At a meeting of the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of
Topsfield, assembled by Neheh. Herrich (Constabel) ye 6 March
1770

Mr Jacob Kimball was Chosen Grand Jury man for the year
Ensuing

Misrs. Joseph Perkins & Thos. Perkins Jur. were Draw'd out
of the Box to serve on ye Jury of Tryals at ye Infr. Court at
Ipswich in March 1770

Elijah Porter Thos Mower Robt Perkins Abraham Hobbs
John Peabody Nathl Low Capt Saml Smith Zachs Gould Nehe-
mah Herrick John Bradstreet Elisha Wildes Joseph Andrews
Danl. Clarke Thos. Emerson, were all sworn Respecting the bills
of Credit of the Neighbouring Goverments and also were Sworn
to the faithful Discharge of their Respective offices the 12 March
1770

The 26 March 1770 Misrs. Stephen Perkins Danl. Bixby Zachs.
Gould Solomon Dodge & Joseph Gould, were all Sworn Respect-
ing ye afore said Bills, and also were Sworn as assessors

The 28 March 1770 Mr. David Perkins was Sworn Respecting
ye afore said bills, and also was sworn as Sealer of leather

The 27 March 1770 Mr. John Perkins was sworn Respecting
the aforesd. Bills, and also was Sworn as Warden

the 4 April 1770 Mr. John Baker Jur. was Sworn Respecting
the aforesaid Bills, and also was sworn as hog Rieve

the 7 April 1770 Mr. Jacob Averell Jur. was Sworn Respect-
ing the afore said Bills, and also was Sworn as Surveyer of Clab-
boards and Shingles

May 2, 1770 Misrs. Joseph Andrews Jereh. Averell & Isaac
Averell, were Sworn as assessors of ye River Meadow Salten-
stalls Meadow & hassokey meadow

by me Elijah Porter Town Cler

Mr. Amos Perkins was sworn as Collecter for ye Proprietors
of the above sd Meadow. by me Elijah Porter Town Cler

Mr. Jerch. Averell was sworn as Treasurer for ye Proprietors
of ye above sd. Meadow by me Elijah Porter Town Cler.

Mr. Isaac Averell was sworn as Clerk of ye Proprietors of the
above sd. Meadow by me Elijah Porter Town Cler.

Topsfield ss To Robert Perkins one of the Constables of the
Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and
Directed fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other In-
habitants for said Town, that are qualified by law for voteing
to Conven and meet Together, at the Meeting house in said
Town on Wednesday the Twentythird day of May Instent at
two of the Clock after noon

1ly To Choose a man to Represent the Town at the Great &
General Court the year Ensuing according to precept

2ly To see if the Town will Choose a man or men to see that
there are good and Sufficient ways made and kept Open through
the mill Dams in this Town, for alewives and Other fish to pass
up into the ponds to Cast their Spauns

3ly for the Town to act any thing they shall think proper
Respecting getting alewives up into the ponds in this Town

4ly To see if the Town will vote not to Purchas any Com-
modities of, or have any tradeing with any importers, or traders
with importers, Contrary to the agreement of the united body
of merchants, and not to [use] any foreign Tea

5ly To see if the Town Choose a Committee to offer to the
Inhabitants of this Town, a subscription to sign against purchas-
ing of or Tradeing with Importers, or Traders with importers,
and also against using any foreign Tea

6ly To allow Bills of Charge

7ly To see if the Town will agree to move the parting in the
frunt Gallery in the Meeting house so as to enlarge the mens
Seats as the Town shall think proper

Hereof fail not and make return of this appointment and Di-
rection with your doings thereon to one or more of the Select-
men of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield May 1st 1770

Zach ^s Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Bixby	
Solomon Dodge	
Joseph Gould	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to ye within appointment & Direction I have warned
all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Tops-

field, that are qualified for voteing to Conven and meet Together at time and place within mentioned

Dated in Topsfield May 2 1770

Robert Perkins Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of the warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Meeting of the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 23 May A D 1770

1ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen to Represent the Town in the Great and Genl. Court

2ly Mr. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Morderator for this meeting

3ly Misrs. Saml. Cummings Solomon Dodge Elijah Porter Capt John Bordman & Mr. Thos Symonds, were Chosen to see there is good fish ways made through ye Mill Dams

4ly Voted that the Town will be at the Charge of haveing alewives brought into ye ponds

5ly Misrs. Nathll Dorman Thos. Symonds Solomon Dodge and Danl. Bixby, were Chosen to get a quantity of alewives brought into the ponds

6ly Voted that this meeting be adjurned to Monday ye 28 of May Instent at 3 of the Clock afternoon, accordingly sd. Meeting was Adjurned

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 28 Day of May A D 1770 held by ad-Jurnment Mr. Stephen Perkins Morderater

Voted that this meeting be Adjurned to Monday ye Eleventh of June next, at three of the Clock afternoon, accordingly said Meeting was adjurned to said day and time

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of Topsfield held by Adjurnment the Eleventh of June A D 1770 Mr. Stephen Perkins Morderater

The Town takeing into Consideration, the grievances the Colonies labour under, by reason of the acts of Parlament, for raising a revennue in america, by imposing dutys on glass painters Colours Tea &c, and said dutys being imposed, without the Consent of any of the americans, The Town apprehends are unconstitutional, and that it is grievous hard and unreasonable, to have our Money Extorted from us, without our Consent, and we apprehend the Money raised by said Dutys, never will do any service to the Community, but only serve to

support, useless pensioners and place men, and further we think it Cruel hard, that we have had our Just Rights and Priveledges invaded, by a Military force, quartered in the heart of the metropulus of this Province at a time of peace, as we apprehend to force us to a Compliance with sd acts, who have behaved themselves, in such a Cruel and hostile manner, as to kill a number of our unarmed fellow subjects, Therefore we think it is high time for every part of ye Community, to do every thing they Can in a Constitutional way, to obtain Redress of our grievances, and heartyly rejoyce, that ye united body of Merchants in this Province, of all ye rest of the Colonys, have acted so wisely and Constitutionally, by Comeing into an agreement, not to import goods from Great Britton till our grievances are redressed, Therefore voted that we will do every thing that is in Our power, to Ennable the said Merchants to Continue in their agreement for the non importation of goods from Great Britton, and that we will Endeavour to Incourage and promote all our own Manufactures, and make our own Clothing, and that we will not knowingly have any tradeing, with those that import goods Contarary to the agreement of the united body of Merchants, nither will we purchas any thing of those that trade with ye said importers of goods, and that we will not Buy nor sell any foreign Tea, nor knowingly suffer any of our familys, to buy or sell any till a generel importation takes place

Misrs. Thos. Emerson Nehemiah Herrick & Luke Averell, were Chosen a Comtee. to offer to ye Inhabitants of this Town, the aforesaid vote for them to sign

Whereas Enos Knight of Topsfield, Stephen Putnam and Phinehas Putnam of Danvers, by their Petition to the Selectmen of Topsfield, shewing that a private way, was much wanted for them, to pass and repass, through land of the heirs of Liut. Nathl. Porter Decd, and laid out to the widow Abigail Porter as thirds out of her late husbands Estate. After vewing the way Petitioned for, and Consideration thereon do proseed to lay out a way for the said Enos Knight Stephen Putnam and Phinehas Putnam as followeth (Viz) Beginning at a stake & stones, at the Road near the said Abigail Porters house, from thence runing East 44 Degrees north nineteen pole to a stake and stones at the end of the Causey, from thence north 4 Degrees east to a stake and stones, at the wall by land of Enos Knight 23 pole & 20 links, to Extend so far Easterly as to make said way one & a half wide, and do Estimate the Damages

at three pounds to be paid by the Petitioners, to the said Abigail Porter and the heirs of the said Nathl Porter

Topsfield April 26th 1770

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Daniel Bixby	
Solomon Dodge	
Joseph Gould	

The above return was Received on Record ye 17 May 1770

Topsfield ss To Thomas Mower one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and Directed Fourthwith to warn, all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield, that are qualified by law for voteing, to Conven and meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town, on Tuesday the Eighteenth day of September next Ensuing at two oclock afternoon

1ly To see how much money the Town will agree to raise to Defray the Necessary Charges ariseing in the Town the year Ensuing

2ly To see if the Town will vote that the Selectmen shall Draw Money out of the Town Treasury to pay the Towns proportion of the County Tax

3ly To see if the Town will agree to Order the Town Treasurer to Issue Executions (in such time as the Town shall think proper) against the Constables that are Delinquent, in makeing up their accounts with the Treasurer agreeable to their warrants

4ly To see if the Town will provide wood for the school

5ly To allow Bills of Charge

6ly To see if the Town will agree that the Several Surveyers of highways shall give Credit on their highway Taxes, to the several Selectmen for as many days work as they was employed in making the highway Taxes the Present year

Hereof fail not and make return of this appointment and Direction to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Augt. 23rd 1770

Zacchs Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Danl Bixby	
Solomon Dodge	
Joseph Gould	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to ye within appointment & Direction I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield qualified

by law for voteing to Conven & Meet Together at time & place within Mentioned by posting up ye within appointment on the Meeting house on a publick lecture Day

Dated Topsfield August 28th 1770

Thomas Mower Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of the warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 18 Sept. 1770

1ly Mr. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Morderater for this meeting

2ly Voted to Raise One hundred pounds for to Defray the Necessary Charges arising in said Town ye year Ensuing

3ly Voted that the Selectmen shall Draw Money Out of the Town Treasurer to pay the Towns proportion of the County Tax

4ly Voted that the Town Treasurer shall issue his Execution against Abraham Hobbs (one of the Constable of said Town) the first of November next, for what he is Delinquent

5ly Voted that the Town Treasurer shall issue his Execution against Capt John Bordman (one of the Constables of sd Town) the first of November next, for what he is Delinquent

6ly Voted that the Town Treasurer shall issue his Execution against Joseph Towne (one of ye Constables of said Town) the first of November next for what he is Delinquent

7ly Voted that the Town Treasurer shall issue his Execution against Elisha Wildes (one of ye Constables of said Town) the fifteenth of November next, for what he is Delinquent

8ly Voted that the Town Treasurer shall issue his Execution against Danl. Lake (one of the Constables of said Town) the fifteenth of November next, for what he is Delinquent

9ly Voted that the Town Treasurer, shall issue his Execution against Capt Thomas Baker (one of the Constables of said Town) the first of February next, for what he is Delinquent

10ly Voted that the Town Treasurer, shall issue his Execution against John Peabody (one of the Constables of Town) the first of February next, for what he is Delinquent

11ly Voted that the Town shall provide wood for the school

12ly Voted that Capt John Bordman be allowed an abatement of John Lefavers Tax £1 7s 11d and also be allowed 10/2 an abatement of Elnathan Hubbards Tax 10s 2d

and also be allowed 9/5 an abatement of Henry Bradstreets Tax £0 9s 5d

and also be allowed 10/2 an abatement of Joseph Hoods Tax
£0 10s 2d
and also be allowed 12/8 an abatement of Simon Bradstreets
Tax 12s 8d
13ly Voted that Mr. Elisha Wildes be allowed 10/6 an abate-
ment of Elnathan Hubbards Tax 10s 6d
And also be allowed 1/9 an abatement of John Sturns Tax
1s 9d
and also be allowed 26/2 an abatement of John Lefavers Tax
£1 6s 2d
and also sd. Elisha be allowed /4 an abatement of Capt. Asa
Perleys Tax £0 0s 4s
14ly Voted that Mr. Jacob Peabody and Others be allowd for
ye School being kept from ye 12 of March to ye 12 of June and
boarding £10 2s 8d
15ly Voted that Mr John Peabody be allow'd 4/7 an abate-
ment of Benja Irelands Tax £0 4s 7d
16ly Voted that the Surveyers of highways shall give Credit
to each of the Selectmen 3 Days for their makeing the highway
Tax

At a legal meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of
Topsfield, assembled by the Constable, ye 18 of Sept 1770 Misirs
John Baker Jur. & Henry Bradstreet were Chosen to serve as
Jury men at the Infr. Court to be holden at Newburyport in
Sept. Instant

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of
Topsfield, assembled by the Constable the second Day of No-
vember 1770 Mr. Daniel Bixby was Chosen to Serve on the
Grand Jury & Mr. David Perkins to Serve on the Jury of Tryals
at the Supr. Court to be holden at Salem on the first Tuesday
of November Inst.

Topsfield ss To Robert Perkins one of the Constables of the
Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby appointed and
Directed Fourth with to warn the freeholders and Other Inhabi-
tants of said Town, that are Qualified by law for voting, to
Conven and Meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town,
on Tuesday ye fifth Day of March next Ensuing at nine of the
Clock in the fore Noon

1ly To Chuse Selectmen a Town Clerk and all Other Town
Officers as the law Directs for the year Ensuing

2ly To see if the Town will accept of the Selectmens Reck-
ening with the Town Treasurer

3ly To see how much money the Town will agree to Raise to Defray the Charges of mending highways and Other Necessary Charges ariseing in said Town this present year

4ly To see what Method the Town will agree to mend the highways in this present year

5ly For the Town to bring in their votes for a County Treas^r

6ly For the Town to bring in their votes for a County Register

7ly Whereas John Balch Apprehends that the Selectmen through some mistake, or Otherwise have Rated him much more for his real Estate, than they have Other persons in said Town in proportion to their severall incomes, Therefore to see if the Town will take that matter under their Consideration and make Chouse of two or more sutable persons (and upon said Balch's Own Cost) to inquire and make sarch into that matter by Comparing the former single bills, with those that the Selectmen have lately used, for their Guide for Taxing the Inhabitants of said Town, and see whether there is any mistake or not and make Report to the Town of their Opinion thereon at the next meeting of sd Town

8ly To see if the Town will assign such appropriation of room in the seats in the Gallery of the meeting house, for a number of singers to sit in, as the Town shall think proper, also to chouse a man or men, to select out such a number of singers as may Conveniently sit in such Room as the Town assigns and seat them there

9ly To hear and Consider of a petition of the widow Abigail Porter praying to have a way Discontinued and abolish'd, that the Select men, on the 26th Day of April A D 1770, laid out through over land set of as part of her Dower in her late Husbands Estate in Topsfield

10ly To see if the Town will Chouse a Committee to seat the Inhabitants of this Town in the meeting house & give them Instructions

11ly To see if the Town will accept of a way laid out by the Selectmen, begining at an ancient Town way in Mr David Balch's land, to Zaccheus Goulds and so on to the Town way leading to fishing brook

12ly To see if the Town will Chuse a man or men to bring some live alewives and put them into the pond in Topsfield (Call'd Prichards pond) that they may cast their spowns in said pond

13ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this appointment & Direction to one or more of the Select men of said Town at time & place above Mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Febr 21st. 1771

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Danl Bixby	
Solomon Dodge	
Joseph Gould	
Stephen Perkins	

Persuant to ye within appointment & Direction I have warned the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield qualified by law for voteing to Conven and meet Together at time and place within mentioned, by posting the within, on ye side of the meeting house in said Town on a Publick Lecture Day

Topsfield Febr. 27th 1771

Robert Perkins Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye warrant and return

Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, the 5 March 1771

Capt Samuel Smith was Chosen Morderator of this Meeting
Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Clerk

Missrs. Enos Knight & Isaac Averell were Chosen Constables

Missrs. David Perkins & Stephen Adams were Chosen Wardens

Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Treasurer

Misrs. Eliezer Lake Jur Jacob Kimball & Thomas Perkins Jur were Chosen Tythingmen

Misrs. Nathl. Dorman Zaccheus Gould & John Peabody were Chosen Surveyers of highways

Misrs. Thomas Emerson Jacob Kimball & John Baker Jur. were Chosen Fence viewers

Mr. Thomas Mower was Chosen Sealer of leather

Mr. John Bradstreet was Chosen Deer Rieve

Misrs. Amos Perkins & Henry Bradstreet were Chosen hog Rieves

Mr. Jacob Averell Jur. was Chosen Surveyer of Clabboards & Shingles

Capt Thos Baker & Mr Abraham Hobbs were Chosen Overseers of the poor

Misrs. Nathl Dorman Thomas Mower & John Baker Jur were Chosen a Comtee to supply the Town with a Grammer School Master

Voted to accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer and there remains in said Treasurers hands not order'd out the sum of two hundred and Twenty one pounds seven shillings and three pence three farthings £221 7s 3 3/4

Voted to Raise one hundred pounds, to Defray the Charge of Mending the highways and Other necessary Charges ariseing in said Town

The Town Brought in their votes for a County Treasurer

The Town Brought in their votes for a County Register

Capt Benja Towne Mr. Abraham Hobbs Mr. Abraham Hobbs Capt. Thos Baker Missrs Solomon Dodge & John Balch were Chosen a Committee to seat the Inhabitants of sd. Town in the Meeting house

On Reading the petition of the widow Abigail Porter, praying to have the way Discontinued and abolished, that the Selectmen, on the Twenty sixth Day of April last, laid Out thro, and Over land, set of as part of her Dower, in her late husbands Estate in Topsfield

Voted that the prayer of said petition be Granted, and that said way be Discontinued and abolished

Voted that this Meeting be adjurned to Monday ye eleventh Day of March Instant, then to Meet at the Meeting house at one of the Clock afternoon, and said Meeting was adjurn'd to said time & place

At a legal Town Meeting, of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield held by adjurnment, the 11 of March 1771
Capt Saml. Smith Morderater

Misrs. Nathl. Dorman Thomas Symonds & Luke Averell were Chosen to bring live alewives and put them into Prichards pond (so call'd)

Voted to allow Mr. Simon Gould & Others the School Comtee. for ye school being kept & for Boarding & for wood, from ye 12 June 1770 to ye 12 March 1771 £24 18s 2d

Voted to allow Mr. Daniel Lake an abatement of John Mays Taxes & ye widdow Nickols Taxes £0 14s 8d

Voted to allow Mr. Stephen Perkins for paper £0 2s 4d

Voted to allow Capt Thos Baker an abatement of Nathl Lows Jur. Taxes £0 5s 8d

Voted to allow Mr Joseph Town 13/9 an abatement of John Mays Taxes & 4/ an abatement of Walter Everdans Taxes

£0 17s 9d

Voted to allow Mr John Peabody 6/, 1/2 an abatement of John Mays Taxes & 4/8 an abatement of Jonathan Dwinels Taxes £0 10s 9 1/2

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to the 12 Day of March Instant, then to Meet at the Meeting house at one of the Clock afternoon, and said meeting was adjourn'd to said time & place

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield held by adjournment ye 12 Day of March 1771 Capt Saml Smith Morderater

Mr. Thomas Mower Capt Saml Smith & Elijah Porter were Chosen Selectmen

Voted that the Selectmen shall be assessors

Voted that this Meeting be adjurned to the 25 Day of March Instant, then to meet at the Meeting house at one of the Clock afternoon, and said meeting was Adjurned to said time and place

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 25 Day of March 1771 held by adjournment Capt Saml Smith Morderater

Misrs. Abraham Hobbs & Saml. Bradstreet were Chosen Selectmen

Voted that ye sd. Abraham Hobbs & Saml Bradstreet shall be assessors

Voted that Ninety pounds, of the hundred pounds that was Voted to be raised, the fifth Day of March Instant, shall be appropriated for to Defray the Charge of mending the highways this present year

Voted to allow Mr Joseph Gould 6/4 an abatement of what Isaac Estey is Taxed in his lists £0 6s 4d

Voted that this Meeting be adjurned to ye first Day of April next, then to meet at the meeting house, at one of the Clock afternoon, and said Meeting was Adjurn'd to said time and place

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the first Day of April held by Adjurnment Capt Saml Smith Morderater

Voted to accept of a Town way laid out by the Select men as followeth Viz

At the petition of David Balch and Others, praying to have a Town way laid out, from said Balches land &c. agreeable to said petition, we have laid out a Town way as followeth Viz Beginning at an ancient Town way in land of David Balch at the Corner of a stone wall, between said Balch and Henry

Bradstreet, from thence runing west fortyfour Degrees north, Twenty poles, thence west Thirty Degrees north nine poles, to said Bradstreets Pasture, thence west Twentynine Degrees north forty poles, thence thirty Degrees Eleven poles, to land of Eliezer Lake, thence west Twentysix Degrees north six poles, thence north Fortyfour Degrees west fourteen poles thence west Eleven Degrees north, four poles, thence west fifteen Degrees south 19 poles, which Comes a little below the gate, near to Zaccheus Goulds house, said way to Extend so far northerly, as to make it one Rod and a half wide, thence the way is to Extend on westerly Thirty four poles and Eighteen links, to a stone near to a gate post, and to Extend so far southerly from Zaccheus Goulds land, as the stone wall now stands, as to make the way, one Rod and a half wide, thence from the said stone near to the sd. gate post, west thirteen Dress. north nine poles, thence west three Degrees north fourteen poles, thence west nineteen Degrees north nine poles, thence west nine Degrees north thirteen poles thence west Twentyseven Degrees north Twelve poles, thence South fortytwo Degrees west Eleven poles, thence west seven Degrees south thirty six poles and Eleven links, which Comes to the Town way that leads to fishing brook bridge and to Extend so far northerly, as to make the way one Rod and a half wide, with Liberty to hang Convenient Cart gates. And we have allow'd no Damage, to any person for land, but as the stone wall against the land of Henry Bradstreet and the stone wall against the land of John Cree & Elijah Porter as they now stand, are in some places within the line of said way, and in case any surveyer shall at any time hereafter, think proper to remove said wall, it shall be removed, and rebuilt on the line, on the Towns Cost, and in Our Opinion in the same way and manner, as the Inhabitants work out their highway Rate

Topsfield 27 March 1771

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Abraham Hobbs	
Thos. Mower	
Saml Bradstreet	
Elijah Porter	

Voted to allow Mr Nathll Averell Jur 6/ for his assisting the Selectmen /as a surveyer/ in laying out a Town way £0 6 0

Voted to allow Mr Benja Bixby 14/3 being what John Hubbard was assessed in his lists, till such time as the said Benja Can get the same of the said John £0 14s 3d

Voted to allow Mr Abraham Hobbs 15/6 being what Elnathan Hubbard was assessed in his Lists to such time as the said Abraham Can get ye same of ye said Elnathan £0 15s 6d

At a legal Town meeting of the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, assembled by ye Constable ye 11 Day of March 1771

Mr. Abraham Hobbs was Chosen Grand Jury man for ye year Ensuing

Misrs. Jacob Dwinel & John Peabody were Draw'd out of ye Box to serve on ye Jury of Tryals at ye Infr. Court to be holden at Ipswich in March 1771

March 5th 1771. Misrs Nathl Dorman & John Peabody were Sworn as Surveyers of highways

Misrs. Thos. Emerson & John Baker Jur. were Sworn as Fence viewers.

Mr Thos. Mower was Sworn as Sealer of leather

Mr John Bradstreet was Sworn as Deer Rieve

Mr Henry Bradstreet took ye Oath respecting ye bills of Credit and was Sworn as hog rive

March 6th 1771 Mr. David Perkins was sworn as warden

March 7th 1771 Mr. Stephen Adams was sworn as warden

March 12th 1771 Mr. Isaac Averell was sworn as Constable

March 25th 1771 Mr. Enos Knight was sworn as Constable

Mr. Thos. Perkins Jur. was sworn as Tythingman

April 3rd 1771 Mr. Eliezer Lake Jur. was sworn as Tything man

May 27. 1771 Mr. Thos. Mower Capt Saml Smith Misrs Elijah Porter Abraham Hobbs Saml Bradstreet were sworn as assessors

April 20th 1771 Mr. Zacchs. Gould was sworn as surveyer of highways

June 29th 1771 Mr. Jacob Kimball was sworn as Tything man & Fence viewer

Essex ss Topsfield May the 2nd 1771 To Isaac Averell one of the Constables of said Town of Topsfield, you are hereby Required to notify and warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of said Town that are qualified for voteing in Town Meetings as the law Directs, that they assemble and Meet Together at the meeting house in said Town on Thursday the Sixteenth Day of May Instent at three of the Clock in the afternoon

1ly To make Choice of a person to Represent said Town at the Great and Genl. Court for the year Insuing according to precept

2ly To see if the Town will assign such a part of the Room in the meeting house Gallary, for a number of such persons as have learnt and informed themselves in the Rules of Singing to set Together in, as the Town shall think proper, and also to Chuse a man or men, to Select out such a number of singers as may Conveniently set in such Room as said Town may assigne and seat them therein, During the Towns pleasure

3ly To see if the Town will Chuse a Committee, to seat the Inhabitants of said Town in the Meeting house and also to give said Committee Instructions in what meathod to proseed in seating said Inhabitants

4ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your doings to one or more of ye Selectmen at time & place above Mentioned

Abraham Hobbs	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Thos. Mower	
Saml Bradstreet	
Saml Smith	

Topsfield May ye 16 1771

by virtue of this Warrant I have warned ye Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield to meet according to time and place within mentioned by posting ye same on fryday the third Day of May Instent at a publick lecture

Isaac Averell Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye Warrant and Return

Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 29 May 1771

1ly Capt. Saml Smith was Chosen to Represent ye Town in ye Great & Genl Court this present year

2ly Capt Thos Baker was Chosen Morderator for sd Meeting

3ly Mr. Zach^s Gould Capt Saml Smith Misrs. Jacob Dwinel & Thos Symonds were Chosen a Comtee to seat the Inhabitants of the Town in the Meeting House

Essex County 26 Augt. 1771

To Enos Knight one of the Constables of said Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required, to Notife & warn all ye Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of said Town, that are qualified by law for voteing in Town meetings, to assemble & meet together, at ye meeting house in said Town, on

Tuesday ye third day of September Insuing at two of the Clock afternoon

1ly To See how much money the Town will agree to Raise to Defray the Necessary Charges ariseing in the Town ye year Ensuing

2ly To See if the Town will Vote that the Selectmen Shall Draw money out of ye Town Treasury, to pay the Towns proportion of the County Tax

3ly To See if the Town will agree to Order ye Town Treasurer to Issue Executions /in such time as the Town Shall think proper/ against the Constables that are Delinquent, in makeing up their accounts with said Treasurer, agreeable to their warrants

4ly To See if the Town will agree that ye Several Surveyers of highways shall give Credit on their highway Taxes to ye Several Selectmen, for as many Days work, as they was imploy'd in making ye highway Taxes ye present year

5ly To Consider & Determine in what way and manner the Town would have the Surveyers Mend the River Bridge

6ly To See if the Town will purchas of ye heirs of Mr. John Prichard late of Topsfield Decd., the house the said John Prichard built on the Towns land

7ly To Chuse a man or men to Serve with the Comtee already Chosen to Seat ye Inhabitants of said Town in ye Meeting house, in the room of Such as refuse to Serve

8ly To give said Comtee Instructions in what manner to Seat Said Inhabitants

9ly to Chouse Jurymen for Newburyport Court according to venire

10ly to allow Bills of Charge
hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time & place above mentioned

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Thos Mower	
Elijah Porter	

Topsfield Sept 3 1771

In Obediance to the within warrant I have notified ye within mentioned Inhabitants to assemble and meet Together at time and place as within mentioned, by posting this warrant on the meeting house on ye Lecture day as usual

Enos Knight Constable

a true Copy of ye Warrant & Return

Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a Legal Town meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of Topsfield ye 3 day of September 1771

Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderater of this Meeting

Voted to Raise one hundred & thirty pounds to Defray ye Necessary Charges ariseing in said Town this present year

Voted that the Selectmen Shall Draw money Out of the Town Treasury, to pay the Towns proportion of County Tax, this present year

Voted that the Town Treasurer Shall Issue Execution against Misrs. Elisha Wildes Danl Lake Capt Thos Baker and Mr. John Peabody, immediately after ye Expiration of one month from this Day, for what they are Delinquent in makeing up their accounts

Voted that ye said Treasurer shall Issue Execution against Misrs. Nathl Dorman & Nehe^h Herrick (Constables) immediately after ye first day of Febr. next for what they are Delinquent

Voted that the Surveyers of highways shall give Credit on their highway lists, to ye Selectmen for three Days Each

Voted that Mr John Balch Deaⁿ George Bixby Misrs Solomon Dodge Saml Bradstreet Isaac Averell Capt. Saml Smith & Elijah Porter be a Com^{tee} to advise with ye Surveyers respecting ye way and manner to mend ye River Bridge

Voted that ye Town will Buy the house, that Mr John Prichard built on the Towns land, of ye heirs of ye said John Prichard Dec^d, provided they Can have it for what it shall be Judg'd to be worth

Thos. Symonds & Danl Clarke were Draw'd out of ye Box to Serve on ye Jury of Trials at Newbury port Court in Sept Inst

Voted that this meeting be adjurn'd to Tuesday the Eight day of Octr. next at three of ye Clock afternoon then to meet at ye meeting house in sd. Town, accordingly said meeting was adjurn'd

At a Legal Town meeting of ye Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of Topsfield held by Adjournmen, ye Eighth day of Octr. 1771 Capt Saml Smith Morderator

1ly Mr. Stephen Perkins was Chosen and Sworn a Special Clerk for sd Meeting

2ly the Town Voted that this meeting be Adjurn'd to Tuesday the fifteenth day of October Instant at two of the Clock afternoon

At a legal Town Meeting of the freeholders & Other Inhabitants of Topsfield held by Adjournment the fifteenth day of October 1771

Capt Saml Smith Morderater & Mr Stephen Perkins Special Clerk as above said

1ly Capt John Bordman & Mr Abraham Hobbs were Chose to serve with ye Comtee that was Chosen at ye last May Meeting to Seat ye Inhabitants of this Town in ye meeting house

2ly Voted that ye Comtee Seat the Inhabitants of the Town in the Meeting house, according to their Discession

Voted that Mr. Zach^s. Gould be allow'd 4/ for plank for fishing Brook Bridge £0 4 0

Voted that Mr. John Peabody be allow'd for Timber and plank £1 5 7

Voted that Mr. Elisha Wildes be allow'd 22/6 an abatement of John Bakers Rates 1 2 6

Voted that Mr. Nath^l Dorman be allow'd 2 1/6 an abatement of John Bakers Rates £1 1s 6d

Voted that Misrs. Zach^s Gould Nath^l Dorman & John Peabody be allow'd for Timber Plank & iron both for ye River Bridge £3 1 3 1/4

Voted that Mr. Joseph Andrews be allow'd 6/ for a stone to build mile brook bridge 0s 6d

Voted that Mr. Nath^l Dorman be allow'd 9/ 11 1/4 an abatement of Will^m Monies Rate in his lists £0 9 11 1/4

and also ye sd Dorman be allow'd 11 /2 an abatement to Benja Kimball for Benja Knight poll Tax 0 11 2

Voted that Mr. Dorman & Others School Comtee be allow'd for ye School being kept from ye 13 Day of March last to ye 13 Day of Sept last £20 2 8

Voted that Misrs Luke Avererell & Nath^l Dorman be allow'd for their time & what they paid for Geting 110 live alewives brought & put into ye pond 1 17 0

Essex County Topsfield ss February 24th 1772 To Isaac Averell one of the Constables of said Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required, to Notifie and warn all the Free holders and Other Inhabitants of said Town that are qualified by Law for Voteing in Town Meetings, to Assemble and meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the third Day of March next insueing at nine of ye Clock in the forenoon

1ly to Chuse Selectmen a Town Clerk and all Other Town Officers as the Law Directs for the year Ensueing

2ly To see if the Town will Accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer

3ly To see how much money the Town will agree to Raise to Defray the Charges of Mending the highways and Other necessary Charges arising in said Town this present year

4ly To see what Method the Town will agree to mend the highways in this present year

5ly To see if the Town will give Liberty for Such a Number of persons as Capt Averell shall Judge to be well Skill'd in Singing to Set Together on Sundays, in the two first seats in the north part of the west Galerie in the Meeting house so far as to the South part of the Alley against the west Gallerie Door, During the Towns pleasure, or in any Other part of the Meeting Either above or below as the Town shall think proper

6ly To Chuse a Committee to take Care that good and Convenient ways are made and kept Open in the Streems and Brooks in this Town for the alewives to pass and Repass to Cast their Spawns in the ponds

7ly To See if the Town will Chuse a man or men to bring Some More live alewives into Prichards pond /so call'd/ this Spring

8ly To see if the Town will accept of the Selectmens Laying out a Town way from the County Road to Boxford Line near to Chas Smiths

9ly To allow Bills of Charge

hereof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Select men of said Town at Time and place above mentioned

Elijah Porter	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Thos Mower	
Saml Bradstreet	

Persuant to the within Warrant I have warned all the Inhabitants of this Town that are qualified by Law for voteing to assemble and meet at time and place within Mentioned, by posting the same on Wednesday ye Twentysixth Day of February at a Publick Lecture

Topsfield March 3rd 1772

Isaac Averell Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of the Warrant and Return

Elijah Porter Town Cler.

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 3 March A. D. 1772

Capt Thomas Baker was Chosen Morderator of this Meeting

Capt Saml Smith Misrs. Abraham Hobbs Saml Bradstreet Thos Mower & Stephen Perkins were Chosen Selectmen

Voted that the Selectmen shall be assessors

Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Cler

Misrs. Thos Emerson & John Baker Jur. were Chosen Constables

Misrs. Jacob Kimball & John Peabody were Chosen Wardens

Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Treas.

Misrs. Abraham Hobbs John Balch & Saml. Towne were Chosen Tythingmen

Misrs. Zacheus Gould John Balch & David Perkins were Chosen Surveyers of highways

Misrs. Robt. Perkins Solomon Dodge & Joseph Andrews were Chosen Fence Viewers

Mr. Thos. Mower was Chosen Sealer of Leather

Mr. John Bradstreet was Chosen Deer Rieve

Misrs. Amos Perkins Solomon Dodge & Nathl Low were Chosen hog Rieves

Mr. Jacob Averell Jur. was Chosen Surveyer of Clabboards & Shingles

Capt Thomas Baker & Mr Joseph Gould were Chosen Overseers of ye Poor

Misrs. Amos Perkins Jacob Kimball & David Towne were Chosen a Comtee. to Supply the Town with a Grammar School Master this present year

Voted to accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer and there is in ye Town Treasurers hands ye Sum of one hundred & Ninety six pounds Seventeen & six pence one farthing not order'd out 196: 17: 6 1/4

Voted to Raise one hundred pounds, on ye polls and Estates to Defray ye Charges of mending ye highways and Other necessary Charges ariseing in said Town this present year

Voted that Sixty pounds of ye above said hundred pounds, shall be appropriated to Defray ye Charge of mending the highways this year

Voted to mend the highways this present year in ye following manner, Viz that the assessors shall Exhibit a list of what Each of the Inhabitants /of said Town/ Just proportion is of the Sum that is or shall be appropriated for mending the highways, and Each Persons proportion is as well paid in Labour as in money, to the Surveyers of highways, Labour to be Estimated at the following prices, viz a man with Sutable Materials two shillings per Day, one per of Oxen one Shilling pr Day a Cart or Tumbrel one shilling per Day, and the surveyer shall give Each person named and set Down in his List, Liberty & seasonable notice, to pay what they are set Down in his List

in Labour, at such time and place, as such Surveyer shall Judge proper, and said Surveyer shall keep an account of what Each person pays in Labour at mending said highways, and on or before the fifteenth Day of November next, shall return a Just and true account of what Each person shall have paid in Labour, to the Selectmen, and the said Selectmen shall immediately Exhibit the same to the Constables, and said Constables shall immediately give Credit to each person named and set Down in each of their Respective lists, for what they shall have paid in Labour, at mending said ways, and the Selectmen shall give Orders, to the Town Treasurer, to Discount with each of the Constables, such sums as shall then appear to be paid in Labour, by the persons named and set Down in each of their Respective Lists

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Wednesday ye fourth of March Instant at one O clock afternoon, then to meet at the Meeting house. accordingly said Meeting was adjourned

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield held by adjournment the 4 Day of March 1772 Capt Thos. Baker Moderator

Voted that Capt Thos. Baker Misrs. Zaccheus Gould & Solomon Dodge, be a Committee to take Care that good and Convenient ways are made and kept open in the Streems and Brooks in this Town for the alewives to pass & repass to Cast their Spawns in ye ponds

Misrs. Nath^l Dorman & Stephen Foster were Chosen to get some more live alewives brought into Prichards pond /so call'd/ this spring

Voted to accept of the Selectmens laying out a Town way from the County Road to Boxford line near to Elias Smiths house, which is as followeth Viz

Topsfield February 20th 1772

At the Desire of a number of the Inhabitants of said Town we have laid a Town way from the County road in Topsfield along by the northerly side of bare hill so call'd and so on to Boxford line near to Elias Smiths house in Boxford as followeth Viz Begining at said County Road about one Rod Distance from the middle of the old Troden way thence Running west 14 Degrees north on Land of Stephen Adams 32 Rods thence west 29 Degrees through said Adams's Land 18 Rods to Land of Capt. John Bordman and Land of the heirs of Timothy Perkins Decd. thence west 39 Degrees north 20 Rods thence north 33 Degrees west through Land of said Bordman and said heirs 10

Rods to Land of Thomas Perkins, thence north 26 Degrees west 29 Rods, thence west 10 Degrees north through said Perkins Land 12 Rods to Land of Joseph Brown, thence west 39 Degrees north 16 Rods thence west 15 Degrees north 32 Rods thence north 38 Degrees west 6 Rods, thence north 11 Degrees west 27 Rods thence north 41 Degrees west 12 Rods thence north 3 Degrees west 10 Rods and 18 Links of the Chain through said Browns Land to Land of Elias Smith, thence north 13 Degrees west on said Smiths Land 45 Rods and 16 Links Links of the Chain to Boxford Line near to Elias Smiths house, said Boundary Line is Drawn on the Southerly and South-westerly side of said way, and sd. way is to Extend northerly and northeasterly from said Line two Rods in width, we also Consider'd of the Damages Done to the Several proprietors by reason of said way being Laid out, and as it appears that there was an ancient way and much Improved ever sence and Long before the now Owners of the Lands over which said way is Laid Came into possession of, and in or near the same place Except in one or two places, where the now Owners of the Land, have removed it a small Distance on there own Land, and for their Own advantage, for which Reasons we have Estimated no Damage to any person but we do reserve for each of the Owners of the Land over which said way is Laid, free and full Liberty to hang & keep up good Cart Gates across said way for ye Better improveing their Land as they shall have Occation

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Thos. Mower	
Elijah Porter	
Abraham Hobbs	
Saml. Bradstreet	

Voted that Elijah Porter be allowed three shillings for paper he found for ye Selectmen ye year past 0 3 0

Voted that Mr. Simon Gould be allowed 1/7 1/4 for what was Omitted in a school Bill £0 1s 7 1/4

Voted that Mr. Nehemiah Herrick be allow'd 10/5 an abatement of Stephen Towne Jur. poll Tax and also 9/0 1/4 an abatement of Benja Irelands Rates £0 9s 0 1/4

Voted that Misrs. John Baker Jur. & Nathl. Dorman as School Committee be allow'd £20 2s 8d for the school being kept from ye 13 Sept. Last six months £20 2s 8d

Voted that ye sd Baker & Dorman be allowed 38/ for wood for the school £1 18s 0d

Voted that Mr Nathl. Dorman be allow'd for Timber & plank

he bought for ye Towns use when he was Surveyer of highways £0 11s 3 1/4

Voted that the Selectmen for ye year A D 1770 be allow'd for their time and Expences in Carrying on a law Suit with Ipswich respecting John Lefavour Viz

To Danl Bixby 13/4 £0 13s 4d

To Zacchs Gould 10/8 £0 10s 8d

To Solomon Dodge 2/8 £0 2s 8d

To Stephen Perkins 10/8 £0 10s 8d

To Joseph Gould 2/8 £0 2s 8d

Misrs. Jacob Kimball & John Peabody were Sworn as wardens the 3 March 1772

Misrs. Abraham Hobbs John Balch & Saml Towne were sworn as Tything men ye 3 March 1772

Misrs Zaccheus Gould & John Balch were sworn as Surveyers of high ways ye 3 March 1772

Misrs. Robt. Perkins & Solomon Dodge were sworn as Fence Viewers ye 3 March 1772

Misrs. Amos Perkins Solomon Dodge & Nathll. Low were sworn as hog Rieves ye 3 March 1772

ye 3 March 1772 Mr. John Bradstreet was sworn respecting ye Bills of Credit of ye Neighbouring Goverments and also was sworn as Deer Reive

ye 4 March 1772 Misrs. Thomas Emerson & John Baker Jur. were sworn as Constables

Mr. David Perkins was sworn as Surveyer of highways ye 10 March 1772

ye 4 March 1772 Mr. Joseph Andrews was sworn as Fence Viewer

The 3 June 1772 Elijah Porter was sworn as Town Clerk & as Town Treasurer

Capt. Samuel Smith Misrs. Abraham Hobbs Stephen Perkins Thomas Mower & Samuel Bradstreet were all sworn as assessors

At a legal Town meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of Topsfield assembled by Constable Isaac Averell the 4 March 1772

Mr. Pelitiah Cummings was Chosen to serve as Grand Jury man for ye year ensuing

Misrs. Saml. Towne & Moses Perkins were Draw'd out of ye Box to serve as Jurymen at ye Infr. Court to be holden at Ipswich in March. 1772

Topsfield ss To Thomas Emerson one of the Constables of ye Town of Topsfield, Greeting You are Hereby appointed and

Directed fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of said Town that are qualified by Law for voteing to Convene and meet together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the nineteenth Day of May next Ensuing at three of the Clock afternoon

To Elect and Depute one or more persons to serve for and Represent them in the Great & General Court or assembly the year Ensuing according to precept

Hereof fail not and make return of this appointment and Direction to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield April 28th 1772

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Abraham Hobbs	
Thos. Mower	
Saml. Bradstreet	
Stephen Perkins	

To Obedience to this Warrant I have warned the Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield by posting this warrant at the meeting house Door on a publick Lecture Day which was the 29 of April 1772
Thos Emerson Constable

A true Copy of the Warrant & Return

Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of Topsfield ye 19 May 1772

Capt. Samuel Smith was Chosen to Represent the Town in the Great & General Court this present year

Essex ss To Thomas Emerson one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield that are qualified for Voteing in Town Meeting as the Law Directs to Convean and meet Together at the meeting house in said Town on Wednesday the sixteenth Day of September next at three of the Clock afternoon

1ly To see how much money the Town will agree to raise to Defray the necessary Charges of said Town this present year

2ly To see how many days Labour at mending the high ways the Town will allow the assessors for their service in making the highway Tax this present year

3ly For the Town if they see Cause to Chuse a Comtee. to Joyne with such Other Committees, as may be Chosen by such Other Towns as may see Cause to Chuse, to meet ye Owners of

the Dams built a Cross Ipswich River /so Call'd/ to see if they Can agree upon Sutable and Convenient ways through said Dams for the alewives and Other fish to pass up said River to Cast their Spawns in the several ponds in the several Towns above near Said River agreeable to a proposal made by the Owners of the Dams aforesd. ye Late Act respecting said fish ways being near Expiring

4ly To See if the Town will agree that the Selectmen shall Draw money out of the Town Treasury to pay ye Towns proportion of the County Tax

5ly To See if the Town will agree to abate John Balch Such Sum or Sums of money as Can be made to appear he was Over Taxed in the years 1768 1769 & 1770 agreeable to a petition then to be preferred by said Balch

6ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield August 26th AD 1772

Abraham Hobbs	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Stephen Perkins	
Thos. Mower	
Saml. Bradstreet	
Saml. Smith	

in Obedience to this Warrent I have warned ye Inhabtants of the Town of Topsfield by posting this warrant at the Meeting house a publick Lecture Day which was the Second Day of September 1772

Thos Emerson Constable

A true Copy of ye Warrant & Return

Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 16th Day of September 1772

Voted that Capt Saml Smith shall be Morderator of this meeting

Voted to Raise one hundred pounds to Defray the necessary Town Charges this present year

Voted that the Surveyers of highways shall give Credit to each of the Selectmen for three Days work at the highways, for thier makeing ye highway Taxes

Voted that Mr. Nathl. Dorman Capt Saml Smith and Mr. Solomon Dodge be a Comtee. to Joyn with such Other Comtees. as Other Towns may Chuse, to meet ye Owners of the Dams built

a Cross Ipswich River /so Call'd/ to See if they Can agree upon Sutable and Conveniet way through said Dams for ye alewives and Other fish to pass up said River to Cast their Spawns in the several ponds in the Several Towns above near said River agreeable to a proposal made by ye Owners of the Dams aforesaid

Voted that the Selectmen shall Draw money Out of the Town Treasury to pay the Towns proportion of the County Tax

Voted that Misrs. Nathl. Dorman and Stephen Foster Jur. be allowed for their time & Charges in geting alewives brought into Prichard Pond /so call'd/ fourteen shilling and three pence half penny £0 14 3 1/2

The Freeholders and Other Inhabtants of Topsfield being assembled by Mr. John Baker Jur. one of ye Constables of said Town the 26th of September 1772 Misrs. Joseph Andrews & Enos Knight were Draw'd out of ye Box to Serve as Jurymen at Newbury Port Court to be holden in Sept. Instent

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield being a Sembled by Mr. John Baker Jur one of the Constables of said Town, the 2 Day of October 1772

Mr. Solomon Dodge was Chosen to Serve on the Grand inquest at ye Supr. Court to be holden at Salem on ye first Tuesday of Novr. 1772, and Mr. Elisha Wildes was Draw'd out of the Box to serve on ye Jury of Tryals at said Court

We the Subscribers have mett this Twenty third Day of April A D 1772 and Perambulated the line & renewed the bounds between the Towns of Wenham & Topsfield in the following manner Viz/ Begining at a stake & Stones near Wenham Causey /so call'd/ being a bounds between Wenham Topsfield & Danvers, from thence runing north 36 1/2 Degrees East 117 1/2 poles to a Stake and Stones by a wall, then north 15 Degrees East 82 1/2 poles to a stake and stones at the northeast Corner of Robinsons Island (so Call'd) thence north 20 1/2 Degrees East 60 poles to a stake and stones at the Southwest Corner of Wenham Island (so Call'd) thence north 58 1/2 Degrees East 29 poles to the River at the northwest Corner of said Wenham Island thence by the River to Ipswich Line

Stephen Perkins	} Selectmen of Topsfield	Caleb Kimball	} Comtee appointed by the Selectmen of Wenham
Saml. Bradstreet		Saml Tarbox	
		James Kimball	

We the Subscribers Mett this 20th Day of November 1772 and Perambulated the Line and renewed the bounds between the Towns of Topsfield & Danvers in the following manner (Viz) Begining at a stake & Stones near Wenham Causey the northerly bounds between Wenham & Danvers thence Runing westerly Eight pole to an Elm tree marked DD & T thence runing norwesterly about Twentytwo poles to a stake and stones by the Edge of a Swamp near Theophilus Fisks Barn thence runing Westerly to a black Oak Stump with Stones about it in an Orchard belonging to ye heirs of Danl Gott Decd. from thence to a heap of Stones at the bend of a wall where a run or slow emties it self out of John Reas Land into the Land of Israel Andrew, thence to a heap of Stones on Land belonging to heirs of the Hon. Timothy Lindall Esqr. late of Salem Decd. near Nickols's Brook thence on the same Corse to said Brook near ye remains of an old sawmill Commonly Call'd Porters Sawmill

Gideon Putnam	} Selectmen of Danvers	Thos. Mower	} Comtee appointed by ye Selectmen of Topsfield
Benja. Procter		David Town	
		Enos Knight	

We the Subscribers Mett this 20 Day of November A D 1772 and Perambulated the Line & Renewed the bounds between the Towns of Topsfield and Middleton in the following Manner (Viz) Begining at a heap of Stones in the brook (Call'd) Nickols's brook near where Porters Saw mill Stood which is a bounds between Topsfield and Danvers, from thence as the brook Runs to a small Elm tree at the northeasterly Branch of said Brook thence as said northeasterly branch runs to a heap of Stones by the River

Joseph Symonds	} Selectmen of Middleton	David Towne	} Comtee appointed by ye Selectmen of Topsfield
Amos Curtice		Enos Knight	
		Thos. Mower	

We the Subscribers Met this 13th Day of Janr. 1773 and Perambulated the line and Renewed the Bounds between Ipswich and Topsfield began at the River at the Mouth of Howletts brook (so Call'd) and by said brook to a stake and stones in Nealands meadow, from thence to a stake and stones on a hill from thence to a stake standing in a great spring in Conants Meadow and from thence to a heap of stones about eight Rods westward from the brook near Stephen Foster

House from thence on a strait Line runing by Burnams Land to a black Oak tree at the bottom of the hill being the Corner of Perkins Land so unto the pond and so on a strait line to a black Oak tree in the wall by Nathan Hoods Orchard and so to the apple tree and stones about it the Corner bounds between Ipswich Topsfield and Boxford

Abraham Hobbs	} Selectmen	Elisha Brown	} Comtee
Saml Bradstreet		Saml Lord	
	of Topsfield		the Selectmen
			of Ipswich

Whereas the Selectmen of Topsfield have appointed to Perambulate ye Line and renew the bounds between ye Towns of Topsfield and Middleton on ye 20th day of November Instant to meet at ye house of Mr Enos Knight at one of ye clock afternoon, we Do hereby appoint you Misrs. Thos. Mower David Town & Enos Knight a Comtee. to meet the Selectmen of Middleton or Such Other Gentlemen as they shall appoint and perambulate the Line and Renew ye bounds between said Towns

Dated Topsfield Novr. 10th 1772

Saml Smith	} Selectmen
Saml Bradstreet	
Stephen Perkins	
	of Topsfield

Topsfield ss To John Baker Jur. one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourthwith to warn the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the South ward in said Town, that are qualified by Law for voteing to Convene and meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Second Day of March next at nine of the Clock in the forenoon

1ly To Chuse Selectmen a Town Clark and all Other Town officers for the Ensuing year as the Law Directs

2ly To See how much money the Town will agree to raise to Defray the Charge of Mending the highways and Other necessary Charges within said Town this present year

3ly To see what Method the Town will agree to mend the highways in this present year

4ly To see if the Town will agree that Swine shall go at large this present year being yoked and Ringed as the Law Directs

5ly To see if the Town Chuse a Comtee to bring some live alewives into the pond in Topsfield, Call'd Prichards pond to Cast their spawns

6ly To allow bills of Charge

7ly To see if the Town will accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer

8ly For the Town to bring in their votes for a County Treasurer

9ly To See if the Town will Chuse a Committee to Seat the people in the meeting house

10ly To See if ye Town will grant ye Petition of John Lefavour

Hereof fail not and make Return hereof with your doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Febr. 22nd. 1773

Abraham Hobbs	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Thos. Mower	
Saml. Bradstreet	
Stephn. Perkins	

Febr. 23 1773 Pursuant to ye within warrant I have warned all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the South ward to attend and meet at time and place for the Business within mentioned John Baker Jur. Constable of Topsfield

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of ye North ward were warned by a like warrant as aforesaid, and a return made as followeth, Viz. Topsfield Febr. 23 1773 I have warned the north ward in Topsfield qualified by Law for voteing by going from house to house notifieing them to appear at ye meeting house in Topsfield on march the 2 Day 1773 at nine of ye Clock in ye morning Thos. Emerson Constable

A true Copy of ye Warrant and returns

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Free holders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 2 Day of March A D 1773

Mr. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Morderator of said Meeting
Misrs. Stephen Perkins Thomas Mower Capt Saml. Smith
Misrs. Daniel Bixby & Zaccheus Gould were Chosen Selectmen
Voted that the afore said Selectmen shall be Assessors

Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Clarke

Misrs. Henry Bradstreet & Jacob Kimball were Chosen Constables

Misrs. Moses Perkins & Jacob Averel Jur. were Chosen Wardens

Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Treasurer

Misrs. Eliezer Lake Solomon Dodge & Stephen Foster Jur. were Chosen Tything men

Misrs. Eliezer Lake Solomon Dodge David Towne & Stephen Foster Jur. were Chosen Surveyers of highways

Misrs. Nehemiah Herrick David Perkins & Thomas Perkins Jur. were Chosen Fence Viewers

Mr. Henry Bradstreet was Chosen Sealer of Leather

Mr. John Bradstreet was Chosen Deer Rieve

Misrs. Samuel Perkins Thomas Wildes & Zebulun Perkins were Chosen hog Rives

Mr. Jacob Averell Jur. was Chosen Surveyer of Clabboards & Shingles

Mr. Eliezer Lake & Capt. John Boardman were Chosen Overseers of the poor

Misrs. Eliezer Lake John Perkins Jur. & Nehemiah Herrick were Chosen a Comtee. to Supply the Town with a Gramer School Master

Voted to Raise One Hundred pounds to Defray the Charge of Mending highways and Other Necessary Charges this present year

Voted that Sixty pounds of the aforesaid hundred pounds be appropriated for mending highways this year

Voted that the highways shall be mended this present year in the same way & method as they were mended in Last year

Misrs. Nathl. Dorman & Stephen Foster Jur. were Chosen to bring some live alewives into ye Pond /Calld/ Prichards pond, to Cast their Spawn

Voted to allow Misrs. Amos Perkins & Jacob Kimball (School Comtee) for supplying ye Town with a gramer school master from ye 7 of April 1772 a year £40 5 4 & and £1 14 10 for wood they provided for ye School

Voted to accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer, and there Remains in said Treasurers hands not Order'd Out ye sum of £217 17 11 3/4

Voted that Misrs. Zaccheus Gould Isaac Averel and Nehemiah Herrick be a Committee to seat the People in the Meeting house

Voted to allow Mr. Isaac Averell (Constable) as an abatement of Nathan Hood Jur. & David Nutings Taxes £0 14s 11 1/2

Voted to allow Mr. Thomas Mower (Constable) as an abatement of Benja. Irelands Tax £0 6s 5d

Voted to allow Mr. Robert Perkins (Constable) as an abatement of Nathan Hood Jur. & wid. Martha Perkins Taxes £0 8s 0d

March 2d 1773 Mr. Henry Bradstreet was Sworn as Constable
Misrs. Moses Perkins & Jacob Averell Jur. were Sworn as
Wardens

Misrs. Eliezer Lake & Solomon Dodge were Sworn as
Tything men

Misrs. Solomon Dodge & Eliezer Lake were Sworn as sur-
veyers of highways

Mr. Nehemiah Herrick was sworn as Fence Viewer

Mr. Henry Bradstreet was sworn as Sealer of leather

Mr. John Bradstreet was sworn as Deer Rieve

Mr. Saml. Perkins was sworn as hog Rieve

Mr Jacob Averell Jur. was sworn as Surveyer of Clabboards
& Shingle

March 15th 1773 Mr. Jacob Kimball was sworn as Constable

March 24 1773 Mr. Stephen Foster Jur was sworn as Tyth-
ing man

March 3 1773 Mr. Stephen Foster Jur. was sworn as Sur-
veyer of highways

March 6 1773 Mr. David Town was sworn as Surveyer of
high ways

March 12 1773 Mr. David Perkins was sworn as Fence Viewer

March 23 1773 Mr. Thomas Perkins Jur. was sworn as Fence
Viewer

March 5 1773 Mr. Zebulon Perkins was sworn as hog Rieve

March 8 1773 Mr. Thomas Wildes was sworn as hog Rieve

May 27 1773 Capt Saml. Smith Misrs. Stephen Perkins Zac-
cheus Gould Danl. Bixby & Thomas Mower were sworn as as-
sessors

Elijah Porter was sworn by the Selectmen as Town Cler. and
was also sworn as Town Treasuer

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants
of Topsfield 2 March 1773 said meeting was warn'd by Mr. John
Baker Jur. one of ye Constables & Mr. John Perkins Jur. was
Chosen to Serve as Grand Juryman for ye year Ensuing

Misrs. John Cree & Saml Bradstreet were Draw'd out of the
Box to Serve on ye Jury of Tryals at the Infr. Court to be holden
at Ipswich in March, 1773

March 2d. 1773 Mr. Joseph Gould was sworn as Clerk of the
Sticky Meadow Common field by me

Elijah Porter Town Cler

Mr. Nehemiah Herrick was sworn as Fence viewer of the
Sticky Meadow Common field by me

Elijah Porter Town Cler

Topsfield ss To Jacob Kimball one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourth-with to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of said Town, that are qualified by Law for voteing, to Convean and meet together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday ye Eighteenth Day of May next Ensuing at two of the Clock afternoon

1ly to Elect and Depute one or more persons to serve for and Represent them in the Great and General Court or Assembly the year Ensuing according to precept

2ly To see if the Town will agree to new paint and Coller the Out Side of the Meeting house, and to agree upon any Other matter or thing, Respecting the same that the Town shall think proper

3ly To see if the Town will Chuse a Committee to Petition the Justices of the Court of General Sessions of the peace, next to be holden at Salem, in behalf of said Town, that the Road Lately laid out from Boxford line near Elias Smiths house to the County Road in Topsfield, might not be accepted and Established as a County Road, by reason of the small advantage that it is or ever will be to the publick in Comparison to the Cost and Damage that will arise to ye Town thereby

4ly For the Town to Consider and act on a petition of Nathl. Raymond of Beverly, and Others, as said Town shall think proper

5ly To see if the Town will give Enos Knight and Nehemiah Herrick Liberty to set up a Stable near the Meeting house

6ly For the Town to Consider and Act Relateing to Severall papers Sent to said Town, from a Committee of Corispondence in the Town of Boston as they shall think proper

7ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make Return hereof with your doings thereon, to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield April 26th 1773

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Danl. Bixby	
Stephen Perkins	
Thos. Mower	

May ye 18 1773 In Obedience to this warrant I have warned the within named Inhabitants to appear at time and place by posting up said warrant on the Meeting house side on a publick Leckter Day

Jacob Kimball Constable

A true Copy of ye warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a Legal Town meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 18 May 1773

1ly Dean. John Gould was Chosen to Represent the Town in the Great & General Court ye year Ensuing

2ly Capt. Saml. Smith was Chosen Morderator of this Meeting

Voted that Capt. Saml. Smith Misrs. Zaccheus Gould and Solomon Dodge, be a Committee to petition the Justices of the Court of General Sessions of the peace next to be holden at Salem, in behalf of said Town, that the Road lately laid out from Boxford Line, near to Elias Smiths house to the County Road in Topsfield, might not be accepted and Established as a County Road, by reason of the small advantage that it is or ever will be to the Publick, in Comparison to the lost and Damage that will arise to the Town thereby

Voted that Misrs. Enos Knight & Nehemiah Herrick shall have Liberty to set up a stable near the Meeting house

Voted that Capt Saml Smith Elijah Porter Capt Thomas Baker Misrs Stephen Foster John Gould Solomon Dodge Abraham Hobbs Capt John Bordman & Mr. David Perkins, be a Comtee. to Consider and Report what they think is proper for the Town to do Respecting a printed pamflet and Other papers Sent from the Committee of Corrispondence of Boston, to this Town

Voted that Mr. Stephen Foster Jur one of ye Surveyers of highways, shall give Mr Thomas Symonds Credit for three Days work, in Lieu of three Days work ye said Thos. did more than what he was assessed, when Capt. Thos. Baker was Surveyer of highways

Voted that this Meeting be Adjurned to the 8th Day of June next, there to meet at the Meeting house at three of the Clock afternoon

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, held by Adjurnment the 8 Day of June 1773 Capt. Saml. Smith Morderator

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield May the 18th 1773 agreeable to an Article in the Warrant the Town took under Consideration a letter a pamphlet and Other papers accompanying the same, sent to this Town by a Committee of Corrispondence of the Town of Boston, Containing a list of the Rights of the Colonists, and of this Province in Peticuler, also a

list of the Infringments and violations of those Rights, for the Consideration of this Town, it being near the Close of the Day a motion was made to Chuse a Committee to take under their Consideration, their Letter &c, and that the Meeting be Adjourned, and the Comtee. to make a Draft in answer to said Letter (if they should Judge proper) and to Lay the same before the Town at the adjournment of said Meeting, the Town Chose a Committee of nine persons for the purpose aforesaid, and adjourned said Meeting, to ye Eighth Day of June June ye 8th 1773 the Town being met Together on the Adjournment, the Letter pamphilet & Other papers being Read and duly Considered, the Committee then Reported the following Draft in answer &c That it is the Opinion of this Town that the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston have Truely and Justly stated the Rights of the Colonests and of this Province in perticuler, as first their natural Rights as men, Secondly their Rights as Christians by the Laws of God, and thirdly their Rights as Subjects by the Constitution, all which Rights in the Opinion of this Town, the Colonists in General, and the Inhabitants of this province in perticuler, are and forever Ought to be truely and Justly intituled to, unless by their Own Act they forfeit them, it is also the Opinion of this Town that the Infringments and Violations made on those Rights are truely & Rightly Stated, and that if Such violations and Infringments are still Continued in, it will prove the Ruin of this Province if not the whole Continent of Amarica and we fear the Kingdom of Great Britton too, and we Look upon it the duty of this and of every Town in this Province in a legal way to use our and their utmost Endeavours to prevent the Execution of any and all unconstitutional act or acts that has been or that may hereafter be made, to Deprive us of any of our Just Rights or Liberty, or to take away our property from us without our Consent, and that this Town in perticuler will be ready at all times to Joyn with their Brethren in every legal way and manner, to Defend the life and person of his Majesty, and the lives of Our Brethren his Majestys Loyal Subjects, and in the same way to preserve and Defend Our Own Lawfull Rights Libertys and propertys even to the Last Exstremity. And that the thanks of this Town be given to the Town of Boston, for their takeing such early Care, in Stateing the Rights of the Colonists and makeing a Representation of the Infringments and Violations, that are made on our Just Rights and Libertys. The Town voted to accept of the above Report by a great Majority

Then the Town Chose Capt Saml Smith Capt John Bordman & Dean John Gould a Committee for Corrispondence with the Committee of Corrispondence of Boston

Also Voted that the Town Clerk Transmit an Authenticated Copy of the foregoing Votes to the Committee of Corrispondence of Boston

Voted that Mr. Solomon Dodge one of ye Surveyers of highways, shall do so much work on Kiziah Perkins Land as he thinks is Reasonable, in mending the way for Mr Jacob Town to Come to Meeting

Voted to allow Mr. Thomas Mower one of ye former Constables, Ten Shillings an abatement of what George Dwinel was assessed in his Lists

and Eight Shillings & one penny an abatement of what Abijah Wilkins was assessed in his Lists

Topsfield ss To Jacob Kimball one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield in sd County Greeting You are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of said Town, that are qualified by law for voteing to Conven and meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Monday the Twentyeth Day of September next Ensuing at one of the Clock afternoon

1ly To See how much money the Town will agree to Raise to Defray ye necessary Charges within ye Town ye year Ensuing

2ly To see if the Town will Vote that the Surveyers of highways shall give Credit on their highway Lists to each of ye assessors as many Days workes as they were imploy'd in makeing the highway Rates in May last

3ly To Choose one Overseer of the poor in Room of Capt John Bordman who declines to Serve

4ly To See if the Town will Chuse a man or men to wait on a Comtee. of Both Houses of the General Court appointed to View the Situation and Circumstances of Joseph Cummings and Others; and also To See if the Town will again Vote to Recieve the Said Joseph Cummings and Others, who have petitioned Said Court to be set of from Ipswich and annexed to Topsfield

5ly That Zaccheus Gould and Others the Committee Chosen at the Annual Meeting in March Last, to Seat ye Inhabitants of said Town in the Meeting house be Directed (Viz) if they have Done it, to lay the full form and manner of their Seating before the Town for their Acceptance or Refusal

6ly for the Town (if they see cause) to Chuse a Committee

to Seat Such of the Inhabitants of Said Town (only) in the Common Seats in the meeting house that have not Seats already Consigned to them by the Town for that purpose

7ly To See if the Town will vote that the Selectmen shall Draw money out of the Town Treasury to pay the Towns proportion of the County Tax for this present year

8ly To allow Bills of Charge

hereof fail not and make Return of your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield August 30th 1773

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Stephen Perkins	
Thomas Mower	

Topsfield 1st. of September 1773

pursuant to this Warrant I have warned the within named Inhabitants to appear at time and place within mentioned, by posting up said warrant upon ye side of the meeting house, on a publick Lecture Day

Jacob Kimball Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 20 Day of September 1773 Capt Samuel Smith was Chosen Morderator of this meeting

Voted to Raise one hundred and fortysix pounds to Defray the necessary Charges arising in said Town for ye year Ensuing

Voted that the Surveyers of highways Shall give Credit to each of the Selectmen on their high way Lists for three Days work each, for their makeing the highway Tax

Voted that Mr. David Balch shall be an Overseer of the poor in the Room of Capt. John Bordman who Refuses to Serve

Voted that Elijah Porter Capt Smith & Deacon John Gould be a Comtee. to wait on the Comtee appointed by both houses of the General Court to view the Circumstances of Capt Joseph Cummings and Others, Respecting their being set of from Ipswich and annexed to Topsfield

Voted that the Town is free and willing to have Capt Joseph Cummings & Others set of from Ipswich and annexed to Topsfield

Voted that the Selectmen shall Draw money out of the Town

Treasury to pay ye Towns proportion of ye County Tax
being £6 13s 0 3/4

At a Legal Meeting of ye Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield Assembled by Henry Bradstreet one of ye Constables of sd. Topsfield, the 20 September 1773

Messrs. Nehemiah Herrick and Joseph Towne were Draw'd out of the Box to Serve as Jurymen at ye Infr. Court to Be holden at Newbury port in Sept. Instant

At a Legal Meeting of the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, Assembled by Jacob Kimball one of the Constables of sd Topsfield the 27 Octr. 1773

Mr. Joseph Gould was Chosen to Serve on the Grand Inquest, and Mr. Zacheus Gould was Draw'd Out of ye Box to Serve on ye Jury of Tryals at ye next Infr. Court to be holden at Salem in November next

Essex ss To Jacob Kimball one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourth-with to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield that are qualified for voteing in Town Meetings as the Law Directs to Conven and Meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town, on Thursday the sixth Day of Jany. next at one O clock afternoon

1ly To see if the Town will agree in sentiments with the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, and many Other Towns, Respecting Teas being Exported into this, and the Other north Amaran Colonys, by the East India Company on their own account, with a duty Imposed on it, for the purpose of raiseing a revenue in Amarca, as set fourth in a Letter, sent to the Town Clerk, by a Comtee. of the Town of Boston, to be Communicated to this Town for that purpose

2ly To see if the Town will agree in sentiments with the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston Respecting their Late Conduct and proseedings in Regard to ye Tea, and the manner of its being Exported &C, as set fourth in a pamphylet, and Other papers accompaning the Letter, also to be Commuicated to said Town

Hereof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Select men on or before ye time of said Meeting

Dated Topsfield December 27th 1773

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
Stephn Perkins	
Thos Mower	

Persuant to this Warrant I have warned the within named Inhabitants to appear at time and place within Mentioned, by posting up said Warrant upon the Side of the Meeting house on a publick Lecture Day

Topsfield Decr. ye 29th 1773 Jacob Kimball Constable

A true Copy of ye Warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler.

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 6 Jany. 1774

Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Morderator of sd Meeting

Voted to Chuse a Committee of five men to Consider & make Report to ye Town, what they think is proper for the Town to do Respecting ye East India Company sending Tea here on their own account

The Town Choose Capt. Saml. Smith Misrs. Elijah Porter Stephen Foster David Towne & Solomon Dodge To be sd. Comtee.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjurned to Thursday the 20th Jany Instent at one O clock afternoon and said meeting was Adjurned

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 6 Jany. 1774 Capt. Saml. Smith Morderator

The papers that was sent from Boston to this Town Respect- ing the East India Company sending Tea here on their Own account being Read

The Town Choos a Committee of five men to Consider and make Report to the Town, what they think is proper for the Town to do Respecting the East India Company sending Tea here on their Own Account and then Voted that said Meeting be Adjurned to Thursday ye 20th Jany. Instent at one O clock afternoon, and accordingly said Meeting was Adjurned

Thursday 20 Jany. 1774 said Freeholders and Other Inhab- tants Met according to Said Adjurnment and the said Com- mittee Reported as followeth Viz: That to purchas and Consume

such quantitys of Tea as has been sent here, would be extreemly impoverishing to the American Colonys even if there was no Duty imposed on it as it would Carry very Great Sums of money from us, and has a much Greater Tendency to impoverish and inslave us, if we should purchas and consume the East India Companys Tea sent here with a duty imposed on it

2 Therefore Voted that we will not buy nor sell any Tea that has or may be Exported from Great Britton, untill such time as there is a totell Repeal of the Oppressive and unconstitutional Act or acts of Parlament for imposing a Duty on Tea &c

3 Voted that we highly approve of every Legal Method the Town of Boston and Others have taken to prevent said Companys Tea being Landed, and to have it Sent Back from whence it Came

4 And that we will Joyn with and assist Our Brethren of the Town of Boston and Elsewhere to preserve our Just Rights and Previldges which have been and still are Enfringed upon by the Acts of the parlament of Great Britton and Especially in Such a Crafty manner, by their late act in Granting Liberty to ye East India Company to Export Tea into America with a Duty imposed on it, we therefore Look upon it Our Duty to Endeavour to ye utmost of our power in every Legal way to prevent any Teas Exported from Great Britton, being Landed here with a duty imposed on it

5 That if any Merchant or Merchants of Boston or Elsewhere, shall for the future import any Tea from Great Britton with a Duty imposed on it, we shall Look upon them as Enimes to all the American Colonys

The above Report being Destinstly read Several times ye question was put whether ye Town would accept of it and it passed in the afirmative and that it be Entered on ye Town Records and that an Attested Copy be Given to ye Comtee of Corrispondence, for them to send to the Comtee of Corrispondence of Boston

Topsfield ss To Jacob Kimball one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In His Majestys Name you are Required fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town, that are qualified by Law for Voteing, to Conven and Meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the first Day of March next at nine of the Clock in the morning

lly To Chuse Selectmen a Town Clerk and all Other Town Officers for the year ensueing as the Law Directs

2ly To Chuse a Committee to Supply the Town with a Grammar School Master the year Ensuing

3ly To See if the Town will Vote that Swine may go at Large being yoked & Ringed as ye Law Directs

4ly To Chuse a man or men to see that there is good and Sufficient ways made and kept Open agreeable to Law through the Mill Dams and Streems that alewives and Other fish may pass into the ponds to Cast their Spawns

5ly To See what Method the Town will agree to mend the highways in this present year

6ly To See how much Money the Town will agree to Raise to Defray the Charge of Mending the highways and Other necessary Charges ariseing within the same

7ly To See how much money the Town will agree to appropriate to the Charge of Mending highways this present year

8ly To See if the Town will accept of the Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer

9ly To see if the Town will Chuse a Committee to Clear the Brook from Capt. Bordmans Down to the River by Removeing out of said brook what may appear to said Comtee. an Obstruction and hinderence to the free passage for the alewives in passing up said Brook to Cast their Spawns

10ly To see if the Town will Disapprove of and Disannul the proceedings of Zaccheus Gould and Others a Committee in Seating the Inhabitants of Said Town in the meeting house in such a way and manner as it appears they have Done it in

11ly To see if the Town will Chuse a Committee to Seat the Inhabitants of said Town in the meeting house and give said Committee Instructions for their guidance and Direction therein

12 To allow Bills of Charge

13 To See if the Town will Grant the Petition of John Rea and Others, Respecting the Towns mending a way for them to go to Meeting in

Hereof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above Mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Febr. 16th 1774

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Thos. Mower	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to this Warrant I have warned the within named Inhabitants to appear at the time and place within Mentioned
Topsfield February ye 28th 1774 Jacob Kimball Constable

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the South ward in said Town was warn'd by a like Warrant, and a like Return made as aforesaid by Henry Bradstreet Constable

A True Copy of ye Warrant and Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield ye 1st March 1774

Ily Mr. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Morderator of said Meeting

Misrs. Stephen Perkins Daniel Bixby Capt. Saml. Smith Missrs. Zaccheus Gould & Thomas Mower were Chosen Selectmen

Voted that the said Selectmen shall be assessors, and all were sworn

Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Clerk and was Sworn by ye Selectmen

Misrs. Daniel Estey & Stephen Adams were Chosen Constables

Misrs. Nathl. Dorman & Elijah Porter were Chosen Wardens sd Dorman was sworn

Elijah Porter was sworn by ye Selectmen

Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Treasurer and was sworn by the Selectmen

Misrs. Joseph Perkins John Baker Jur. & Jacob Kimball were Chosen Tything men and all were sworn

Misrs. Zebulun Perkins David Balch John Batcheler & Ephraim Towne were Chosen Surveyers of highways. John Batcheler was Sworn Ephraim Towne & Zebulun Perkins were sworn ye 2 March 1774

Misrs. Joseph Perkins Thomas Symonds & Jacob Peabody were Chosen Fence Viewers Joseph Perkins & Jacob Peabody were Sworn

Mr. Joseph Perkins was Chosen Sealer of Leather and was sworn

Mr. Nathaniel Low was Chosen Deer Rieve & was sworn

Misrs. Benja. Kimball Moses Wildes & Moses Perkins were Chosen hog Rieves and all were Sworn

Mr. Jacob Averell Jur. was Chosen Surveyer of Clabboards and Shingles

Misrs. Thomas Emerson & Nehemiah Herrick were Chosen Overseers of the Poor

Misrs. Joseph Gould Amos Wildes & John Peabody were Chosen a Committee to Supply the Town with a Grammer School Master this year

Voted that Misrs. John Perkins Jur. Thomas Symonds & Capt John Bordman, be a Committee to see that there is good and sufficient ways made and kept Open agreeable to Law, through ye Mill Dams, that alewives & Other fish may pass into ye ponds to Cast their Spawns

Voted to mend the highways this present year in the same method as the Town did in the year 1772

Voted to Raise one hundred Pounds to mend the highways and Other necessary Charges

Voted that Eighty pounds of ye aforesaid hundred pounds shall be appropriated for mending the highways this present year

Voted to accept of the Selectmens Reckening with the Town Treasurer and there Remains in said Treasurers hands not Orderd out

£273 1 3 3/4

Voted that Misrs. Robert Perkins Stephen Foster and Solomon Dodge, be a Committee, to Clear the Brook from Capt John Bordmans Down to ye River by Removeing out of said Brook what may appear to said Comtee. an Obstruction and hinderance to the free passage for the alewives and Other fish in passing up said Brook to Cast their Spawns

Voted allow Mr. Stephen Perkins for paper

£0 2s 8d

Voted to allow Mr. Isaac Averell 5/1 an abatement of what Willm Gallop is Taxed in his Lists £0 5s 1d and 9/11 3/4 an abatement of what Enoch Perkins is Taxed in his Lists

£0 9s 11 3/4

Voted to allow Mr. Eliezer Lake and Others ye School Comtee, to ye School Master for keeping school Eight months

£17 15s 3 1/2

for 2 1/2 Cord wood for ye school in said 8 months £1 6s 8d

for Boarding ye School Master ye said 8 months £8 10s 8d

Voted to allow Mr. Nehemiah Herrick 12/ 2 3/4 an abatement of what John May is Taxed in his Lists

£0 12s 2 3/4

Voted to allow Mr Stephen Foster Jur. 5/7 for 7 feet of plank

£0 5s 7d

Voted to allow Misrs. Zach^s Gould and David Perkins 15/ for plank for ye River bridge

£0 15s 0

Voted to allow Mr. Thos. Mower 10/ an abatement of what Benja Kimball is Taxed in his Lists for Benja Knights Pole

£0 10s 0

On Reading the Petition of John Rea and Others, praying to have a way mended for them to Come to Meeting in, or to Releave ye Petitioners in any Other way and manner as ye Town shall think proper

Voted that ye Surveyers of highways shall mend the way for the said Petitioners to Come to meeting in, as they do ye Other highways in said Town

Voted that the Selectmen also shall lay out a way for said Petitioners to Come to Meeting in

May 28th 1774 Mr. Thomas Symonds was sworn as fence viewer

At a legal Town Meeting of the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, being warned and assembled by Mr. Jacob Kimball Constable of sd Town ye 1st March 1774

Mr. John Peabody was Chosen to Serve as a Grand Jury man for ye Ensueing year

Misrs. Thomas Mower & Robt. Perkins were Draw'd out of ye Box to Serve on ye petty Jury at ye Infra. Court at Ipswich in March Inst.

March 1st 1774 Mr. Joseph Gould was sworn as Clerk of ye Proprietors of ye Sticky Meadow Common field part in Topsfield & part in Boxford & Middleton

by me Elijah Porter Town Cler. of Topsfield

and Mr. David Towne Jur. was Haward and as Fence Viewer of said Common field

by me Elijah Porter Town Cler. of Topsfield

Essex ss To Jacob Kimball one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties Name you are hereby Required fourth with to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town that are qualified by Law for voteing, to Conven and meet Together at the meeting house in said Town, on Fryday the Twentysecond day of April Instant at one of the Clock in the afternoon

1ly To see if the Town will agree upon any method in order to Supply the Pulpit, and have the Gospel preached in this Town, during the time of the indisposition of the Revd. Mr. Emerson

2ly To Chuse a Constable or Constables in the room of Stephen Adams who has been adjudged by the Court to pay a fine for Refusing to take the Oath and in the room of Daniel Estey who neglects to take ye Oath

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield April 19th 1774

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
Thos Mower	
Stephn Perkins	

Topsfield April ye 20 1774

Pursuant to this Warrant I have warned all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward of sd Town that are qualified by Law for voteing, to appear at time and place within mentioned Jacob Kimball Constable of Topsfield

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of ye South ward in said Town, were warned by a like warrant as aforesaid, and a simerler Return as aforesaid, made by Henry Bradstreet
Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye Warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 22d of April 1774

Capt. Saml. Smith was Chosen Morderator of said meeting

Voted to hire some sutable person to preach ye Gosples in this Town, four Sabbath days

Voted that Misrs. Elijah Porter Solomon Dodge & Deacon John Gould, be a Committee, to get a sutable person to preach the Gosples in this Town, four Sabbath days

Mr. Amos Wildes was Chosen Constable in ye Room of Mr. Stephen Adams who refused to take ye Oath

Mr. Enos Knight was Chosen Constable, in ye Room of Mr. Daniel Estey, who neglected to take ye Oath

Voted that this meeting be Desolved, and accordingly said meeting was Desolved

April 22d 1774 Enos Knight was sworn as Constable

We the Subscribers being appointed by the Towns of Topsfield & Boxford to Perambulate the lines between said Towns, have on the fourth Day of December 1772 Perambulated said line, begining at an apple tree with stones about it in Capt Asa Perleys field, thence to a stake and stones at the Southerly corner of Bakers farm (so calld) thence to where the water runs through the Dam by Simon Goulds house, call'd Andrews Dam, thence to fishing brook to a stake & stones by the East-

erly side of a revilet runing into said brook, thence down said brook to Ipswich River so call'd, thence up said River to Middleton line

Thomas Perley	} Comtee	Eliezer Lake	} Comtee
Richard Peabody		for Boxford	

June 23rd 1774 Mr. Amos Wildes was sworn as Constable

Essex ss To Enos Knight one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are qualified for voteing in Town Meetings in Topsfield, to Assemble and Conven together at the meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Seventeenth day of May Inst. at two of the Clock afternoon

1ly To Chuse a person or persons to Represent said Town at the Great and General Court according to precept

2ly For the Town to agree upon such further Methods in Order to Supply the Pulpit with a sutable person to preach ye Gosple, During the time of the Revd. Mr. Emersons indisposition as they shall think proper

3ly To See if the Town will agree to pay the Constables or Collectors for their Service in Collecting the Taxes in this Town for this present year, and for ye future

4ly For the Town to agree upon any perticuler sum to give the Constables, or Collectors pr. pound for their Service in colecting the Taxes in this Town for this present year and for ye future

5ly To See if the Town will release Amos Wildes from serveing as Constable this present year, and Chuse another Constable to Serve in his room

6ly To see if the Town will give Liberty for John Perkins Jur. and such Others of the Town Inhabittance as may Joyn with him to set up a horse stable on the Towns Land, near the meeting house

7ly To allow Bills of Charge

8ly To see if the Town will agree to new build the Bridge across the River Call'd Rowley Bridge, this present year

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town on or before the day and time above mentioned

Dated Topsfield May ye 10th 1774

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Saml. Bixby	
Stephen Perkins	
Thos. Mower	

By Virtue of this Warrant, I have warned the free holders and Other Inhabatants within mentioned to appear at time and place within mentioned

Topsfield 14 May 1774 Enos Knight Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye warrant and Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield at ye Meeting house ye 17 May 1774 Dean. John Gould was Chosen to Represent ye Town in the Great and General Court this present year

Capt. Saml. Smith was Chosen Morderator of this Meeting

Voted that Misrs. Abraham Hobbs John Gould & Saml. Cummings be a Comtee. to Confer with the Revd. Mr. Emerson respecting Supplying ye Pulpit. The said Comtee. Reported that Mr. Emerson took it kindly of ye Town, and would have ye Town go on as they had Done

Voted to hire a sutable person to preach ye Gosple in this Town four Sabbath days, And Misrs. Elijah Porter John Gould & Stephen Foster were Chosen a Committee to get a sutable person to preach ye Gosple in this Town four Sabbath Days

Voted that Mr. John Perkins Jur. and Such Others as will Joyn with him, shall have Liberty to Set up a horse Stable near the Meeting house

Voted that the bridge across ye River, call Rowley bridge shall be new built this present year

Voted to allow Mr. Robert Perkins 10/ an abatement of what David Nutting was Taxed in his Lists £0 10 0

also allow'd to sd. Robt. Perkins 10/ an abatement of what Salvanis Wildes pool Tax 0 10 0

Voted to allow Mr. Isaac Averell 9/ an abatement of Salvanis Wildes pool Tax 0 9 0

and 9/ an abatement of Simon Bradstreet Tax in his List £0 9 0

Voted that this meeting be Adjurn to Tuesday ye 14 of June next at 3 O Clock after noon then to meet at the Meeting house. And sd. meeting was Adjurnd

At a Legal Town Meeting held by Adjurnment the fourteenth day of June 1774

Stephen Perkins was Chosen and Sworn a speciel Clerk for said meeting, Mr. Elijah Porter ye Town Clerk being absent, by reason of sickness

Voted to hire a sutable person to preach the Gosple in this Town four Sabbath days

Misrs. Stephen Foster Solomon Dodge & Elijah Porter was Chosen a Committee to get a sutable person to preach the Gosple in this Town four Sabbath days

Voted that the Comtee Chosen to Supply ye Pulpit with a person to preach ye Gosple four Sabbath days, be Directed to confer with ye Revd. Mr. Emerson in order to know whether he will Relinquish his Salary or any part thereof During the Time, the Town are Obliged to hire another person to preach the Gosple, and report to the Town at ye adjurnment of this meeting

Voted that this meeting be further adjurned to Tuesday the Fifth day of July next at three of ye Clock afternoon

At a Legal Town meeting held by adjurnment the 5th day of July A D 1774 Capt Saml. Smith Morderator

Voted to hire Preaching a longer time

Voted to hire a sutable person to preach ye Gosple eight Sabbath days from and after next Sabbath day

Voted that Misrs. Zaccheus Gould Elijah Porter and Daniel Bixby, be a Committee to imply a sutable person to preach in this Town, the aforesaid eight Sabbath Days

Voted that Mr. Enos Knight be allowed 3/ for 1/2 of his time in warning a town meeting £0 3 0

Voted that Mr. Jacob Kimball be allowed 3/ for warning one half of ye Town to attend a Town Meeting after his year was out £0 3 0

Voted that this Meeting be Dissolved. and said Meeting was Dissolved

Essex ss To Amos Wildes one of the Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourth with to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the northward in said Town that are qualified by Law for voteing, to conven and meet together at the meeting house in said Town on Wednesday the thirteenth Day of July Instent at five of the Clock afternoon

1ly To See if the Town will agree to be at ye Charge of the Funeral of the Revd. Mr. Emerson Decd., or any part thereof, and to act upon any Other Matter or thing Respecting the same, that the Town shall think proper

2ly To see if the Town will Chuse a Committee to provide a sutable person to preach the Gosple in said Town after the fourth day of Sept. next, and to act any thing further respecting the same the Town shall think proper

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield July 12th 1774

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Danl. Bixby	
Thomas Mower	
Stephen Perkins	

By Virtue of this Warrant I have warned all the free holders and Other Inhabitants according to warrant

Topsfield July 13th 1774

Amos Wildes One of the Constables of Topsfield

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the South ward in said Town, were warned by a like Warrant as aforesaid, and a simerler Return made by

Enos Knight Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye Warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield ye 13th July 1774

Capt. Samuel Smith was Chosen Morderator of sd. meeting

Voted that ye Committee last Chosen to get a Sutable person to preach the Gosple in this Town, be further impowered to get a sutable person to preach the Gosple four days from and after the fourth day of Sept. next

Essex ss To Enos Knight one of the Constables of ye Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all ye Freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are qualified for voteing in Town Meetings in the South ward in Topsfield to conven and Meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Monday the Twenty ninth day of August Instent at two of the Clock afternoon

Ily For the Town to hear, and to Consider, and to Act Relateing to the Proposels made to this Town, by the Town of Marblehead, in a letter Directed to the Selectmen of Topsfield, which will then be Produced as they shall think proper

Hereof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your doings, to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above Mentioned

Dated Topsfield August 22d 1774

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
Thos. Mower	
Stephen Perkins	

In Obedience to the within I have warned the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants to meet at time and place within Mentioned
Topsfield August 29 1774 Enos Knight Constable

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of ye North ward in said Town, were warned by a like warrant as aforesaid. And a simerler Return made by Amos Wildes Constable of Topsfield

A True Copy of ye warrant and Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler.

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, Legally Assembled the 29 August 1774

Capt Saml. Smith was Chosen Morderator of said Meeting

Voted that Capt. Saml. Smith Mr. Enos Knight & Dean John Gould, be a Committee to meet the Comtee. of Marblehead and Comtees. of Other Towns, at Ipswich agreeable to a letter from the Town Clerk of Marblehead

Voted that ye said Comtee. shall have a reasonable allowance for their Services

Voted that this Meeting be Dissolved

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, assembled by Mr. Enos Knight Constable of Topsfield Misrs. Joseph Perkins & Jacob Averel Jur. were Draw'd Out of the Box to serve on ye petty Jury at Newbury Port Court, to be holden in September next

Essex ss To Enos Knight one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitance of the Town of Topsfield that are qualified for Voteing in Town Meetings as the Law Directs, to Assemble and Conven together at the meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the Twentyeth Day of September Instant at two of the Clock afternoon

1ly To Chuse a person to Represent said Town at the Great and General Court according to precept

2ly To see how much money the Town will Raise to Defray the necessary Charges ariseing within the same, the year Ensuing

3ly For the Town to agree upon any Further Method, that they shall think proper, in Order for the Settlement of a Gosple minister in said Town

4ly For the Town to act any Other matter or thing, that may come before them, relateing to the Inhabitants of this Town or any part thereof, as said Town may think proper

5ly to allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not, and make Return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield Sept. 7th 1774

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Danl. Bixby	
Thomas Mower	

Pursuant of this warrant I have warned all ye Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of Topsfield qualified by law for voteing to Conven & meet together at time and place within mentioned by posting this Warrant on ye side of ye meeting house on a fast day in said Town

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield Legally assembled the 20th September 1774

Capt Saml Smith was Chosen to Represent the Town in the Great and General Court this present year

Capt Saml. Smith was Chosen Morderator of this Meeting

Voted to Raise one hundred & Twenty pounds to Defray the Necessary Charges ariseing in said Town this present year

Voted that Misrs. Elijah Porter Zaccheus Gould and Danl Bixby, be a Committee to get a sutable person to preach the Gosple in this Town

Also Voted that said Comtee do their Endeavour to get Mr. Marret to Supply the Pulpit further Viz Six Sabbath days

Voted that this Meeting be Adjurned to Tuesday ye Eleventh day of Octor. next

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, held by Adjurnment ye 11th day of Octr. 1774 Capt. Saml. Smith Morderator

Capt. Saml. Smith was Chosen a Deligate to meet and set in the Provencsiel Congress, to be held at Concord or such Other place as said Congress shall agree upon.

The Town then gave the said Saml. the following Instructions

Viz That you use your Endeavours that King George ye 3rd be acknowledged as Our Rightfull Sovereign

2ly That you use your Endeavours that all our Constitutional and Charter Rights and Previlidges be kept good and Inviolable to the Latest Postarity

3ly That you do every thing to the utmost of your power to prevent any of the late Oppressive Acts of Parlament being Executed. Provided that you do not act any thing that is Repignent to what the Continentional Congress may Resolve

Voted to allow the Selectmen three days each for their making the highway Rate Last Spring

Voted to allow Dean. John Gould Mr. Enos Knight and Capt. Saml. Smith 12/ each for their attendance at ye Congress at Ipswich

£1 16 0

Voted yt. this meeting be Dissolved

Essex ss To Amos Wildes one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourth-with to warn all Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward that are qualified by law for voteing to Conven and meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Wednsday ye second day of November next at two of the Clock afternoon

1ly To see if Town will concur with the Church in their vote in giveing Mr. John Marrett a call to the work of ye Ministry amongst us in said Town and in case ye Town shall concur with the Church in said vote

2ly To see how much Sallary the Town will agree to give Mr. John Marrett annually, to support him in the work of ye ministry amongst us in said Town

3ly To see how much ye Town will agree to give Mr. John Marrett as a settlement to incourage him to settle in the work of ye Ministry amongst us in said Town

4ly for the Town to act on any Other Matters or things relateing to the Settlement of a Gosple Minister in said Town that they shall think proper

5ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Octr. 11th 1774

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Thomas Mower	
Stephen Perkins	

Topsfield Octr. 14th 1774 By virtue of this Warrant I have warned all the within Mentioned Freeholders and Other Inhabitants, to appear at time and place within Mentioned
Amos Wildes Constable of Topsfield

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the South ward in said Town were warn'd by a like warrant as aforesaid, and a like return as aforesaid, made by Enos Knight Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of the warrant and Returns

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 2 Novr. 1774

1ly Capt. Saml. Smith was Chosen Morderator of said Meeting

2ly Voted to concur the Vote of the Church, for giving Mr. John Marrett a Call to the work of ye Ministry, agreeable to the Vote that was passed by the Church the 29 of September 1774 for Calling Mr. John Marrett to the work of the Ministry in this Town There was 49 voted in the affirmative and 28 in the negative

3ly Voted to give Mr. John Marrett sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence Lawfull money Annually, and the use of the parsonage so long as he Carrys on the work of the Ministry in said Town

4ly Voted to give Mr. John Marrett one hundred and thirty three pounds six shillings and eight pence Lawfull money, as an incourrigment for him to settle in the work of the Ministry in this Town

5ly Misrs. Elijah Porter Abraham Hobbs Doct. Richard Dexter Capt. Saml. Smith and Dean. John Gould were Chosen a Comtee. to present the aforesaid votes to ye said Marrett, for his consideration

6ly Voted to allow Mr. Amos Wildes and Others ye School Comtee. for ye school being kept six months from ye 8 of March to ye School Master £13 6 8
for wood 0 10 6
for Bording the school master 6 8 0

7ly Voted that Misrs. Elijah Porter Danl. Bixby & Zachs. Gould be a Comtee. to get a sutable person to supply the Pulpit 4 Sabbath days from and after ye 2 next Sabbaths

Essex ss To Enos Knight one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his majestys Name you are hereby

required fourthwith To warn all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the South ward in said Town that are Quallified By Law for voting, to Convene and meet Together att the Meeting house In said Town Thursday the eight Day of December Instant att one of the Clock afternoon

1ly To see if the Town will Chuse a Committee to provide a sutable person to preach the Gospel in said Town, after the Eleventh Day of December Instant, and to act any thing further respecting the same, the Town shall think Proper

2ly To see if the Town will agree to support and Defend the Constable of said Town, from such Cost and Damage as may arise to them in Case of their refusal to sattisfie the Executions that has or may be issued against them By Harrison Gray Esqr. for the Province Tax or taxes that are or may Be Due to the Province from said town, and also to Direct said Constables to Pay said Province Tax or Taxes to Henery Gardner Esqr. agreeable to the Recommendation of the Provincial Congress

Hereof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town att Time and Place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Decr. the 5th 1774

Samuel Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
Thomas Mower	
Stephen Perkins	

Pursuant to this warrant I have warned all the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the south ward in Topsfield that are qualified for voting to meet at time and Place within mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Decr. 6th 1774

Enos Knight Constable of Topsfield

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the North ward In said Towne were warned By a like warrant and a Like Return as aforesaid made By Amos Wildes Constable of Topsfield.

A true Copy

attest Elijah Porter Town Cler.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Topsfield, legally assembled ye 8th Day of Decr. 1774

Capt. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Moderator of said Meeting.

Misrs. Elijah Porter Daniel Bixby Zaccheus Gould were Chosen a Committee to Provide a sutable Person to Preach the Gospel in said Town till the 10th Day of March Next

Voted that this meeting Be adjurned to thursday the 22d of Decr. Instant, then to meet at the meeting house at two of the Clock afternoon

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Topsfield held By adjurnment ye 22d of Decr. 1774 Capt. Stephen Perkins Moderator

Voted to support and Defend the Constables of said Town Viz Missrs. Jacob Kimball Henery Bradstreet Enos Knights and Amos Wildes from such Cost and Damage as may arise to them, in case of their refusal to sattisfie the Executions that has or may Be issued against them, By Harriscn Gray Esqr. for the Province Tax or Taxes, that are or may Be Due to the Province from said Town

Voted that the aforesaid Constables Be and are hereby Directed to Pay sd Province Tax or Taxes to Henery Gardner Esqr. agreeable to the Recomendation of the Provincial Congress

Voted that the Committee above said use their endeavour to get a sutable person to Preach the Gospel after ye 2d Day that Mr. Mansfield has agreed to Preach

Essex ss To Enos Knight one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majestys name you are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are qualified for Voteing in Town meetings in the south ward and in said Town to assemble and Convean Together at the meeting house in said Town on Thursday ye nineteenth day of January Instent at one of the Clock afternoon

1ly To see if the Town will Chuse a man or men, to Represent said Town at the Provincial Congress agreeable to the Recommendations of the former Congress

2ly To See if the Town will Chuse a Committee to Settle with Mr. Thomas Emerson Executor of the Revd. John Emerson Decd. relating to ye said Revd. John Emersons salary

3ly to See what sum ye Town will agree to give as encouragement to Such Military soldiers as may inlist to serve as Minit Men in this Town for their service agreeable to the Recommendation of the late Provincial Congress

4ly To See if the Town will vote to have the Millitary Soldiers in this Town all in one Company as it formerly was, and Take Some proper Meathod to Effect the Same

Hereof fail not and make Return of this Warrant with your doings to one or more of the Select men at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield Jany. 11th 1775

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Danl. Bixby	
Stephen Perkins	
Thomas Mower	

By Virtue of this Warrant I have warned all the within Mentioned Freeholders and Other Inhabitants to appear at time and place within mentioned

Topsfield Jany. 17th 1775

Enos Knight Constable of Topsfield

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of ye north ward were warn'd by a like warrant as aforesaid. And a like Return made as aforesaid, by Amos Wildes Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye warrant and Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield Legally assembled ye 19 day of Jany 1775

1ly Capt Stephen Perkins was Chosen Morderator of sd meeting

2ly Capt. Saml. Smith was Chosen a Delagate to Meet and Set in the Provincial Congress, agreeable to the Recommendation of the former Provincial Congress

Voted that the Selectmen Make a Settlement with Mr. Thomas Emerson Exur. of the Last will of the Revd. Mr. John Emerson Decd. for his Sallary, and Draw so much money out of the Town Treasury to pay Such a sum as they agree is due to the Estate of the said Revd. John Emerson

4ly Voted to Comply with the Recommendation of the Provincial Congress Respecting the inlistment of minit men

5ly Misrs. Elijah Porter Saml. Cummings Capt. Saml. Smith Mr. Saml. Bradstreet Capt Stephen Perkins Decⁿ. John Gould & Mr. Enos Knight Were Chosen a Committee to Consider, and make Report to the Town, what they think is Reasonable for the Town to give Such Minit men as may inlist, for ye time they spend to be Disciplin'd

6ly Voted that this meeting be Adjurn'd to Thursday ye Twenty Sixth day of Jany. Instent, then to meet at ye meeting at two of ye Clock afternoon

At a Legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabatants of Topsfield, held by Adjurnment ye 26 day of Jany. 1775

Capt Stephen Perkins Morderator
Voted that this Meeting be Dissolved

(Seal) Essex ss To Enos Knight one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In His Majesties Name you are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the South ward in said Town, that are qualified for Voteing in Town Meetings as the Law Directs to assemble and Convean together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday ye Seventh day of March next at nine of the Clock in the Morning

1ly To Chouse Selectmen Constables a Town Clark and all Other Town Officers, that the Law Directs, for the year Ensuing

2ly To See if the Town will Chuse a Committee further to Supply the Town with a sutable person to preach the Gosple in said Town. And act on any Other thing Relative to the Resettleing a Gosple Minister in said Town that said Town shall think proper

3ly To See how much money the Town will raise to Defray the Charge of Repairing the highways in said Town and Other Necessary Charges

4ly To see how much money the town will appropriate to the use of repairing the highways and Bridges in said Town the year ensuing

5ly To see if the town will agree upon a method how to Collect a Charitable Donation for the town of Boston agreeable to the Recommendation of the Provincial Congress

6ly For the Town to act any thing that they shall think proper relating to the Briefs Sent to this Town from Salem for Donations for those that Lost by fire

7ly To see if the Town will agree to give any Incouragement to Such of the military Soldiers that may enlist themselves as minute men to serve in Defence of the rights and Liberties of this Continent agreeable to the recommendation of the Provincial Congress

8ly To See if the Town will accept of ye Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer

9ly To See if the Town will agree to let Swine go att Large the year ensueing, Provided they are yoked and ringed as the Law Directs

10ly For the town to act on any other matter or thing that may Be moved for or that may be Laid Before the Town for their Consideration

11ly To See if the Town will vote that the Selectmen shall Draw money out of the Town Treasury to Pay the County tax

12ly For the Town to agree upon a method how to Dispose of the Parsonage the year ensuing

13ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof Fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen att time and place above mentioned

Dated Febuy 24th 1775

Samuel Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Zaccheus Gould	
Daniel Bixby	
Stephen Perkins	
Thos. Mower	

Pursuant to this Warrant I have warned all the Freeholders and other inhabitants of the South ward to meet together att time and Place within mentioned

Dated Topsfield March 1st 1775

Enos Knight Constable of Topsfield

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of ye north ward in Said Town were warn'd by a like warrant as aforesaid and a simerler Return made as aforesaid by

Amos Wildes Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, Legally assembled ye 7th of March A D 1775

Capt. Samuel Smith was Chosen Morderator of said Meeting

Capt Saml. Smith Capt Stephen Perkins Misrs. Israel Clarke

Jur. John Peabody & Thomas Mower were Chosen Selectmen

Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Clerk

Misrs. Joseph Perkins & Joshua Towne were Chosen Constables. Said Joshua Towne was sworn ye 21 March 1775

Misrs. John Balch & John Gould Jur. were Chosen Wardens & all were sworn

Elijah Porter was Chosen Town Treasr.

Misrs. Nathan Hood Moses Perkins & Abraham Hobbs Jur. were Chosen Tythingmen & all were Sworn.

Misrs. Joseph Cummings Thomas Perkins Jur. Daniel Bixby & Simon Gould were Chosen Surveyers of highways said Jos: Cummings Daniel Bixby & Simon Gould were all sworn

Misrs. Robert Perkins Solomon Dodge & Luke Averell were Chosen Fence Viewers and all were Sworn

Mr. David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of Leather ye 30 of March Inst. and was Sworn

Mr. John Bradstreet was Chosen Deer Rieve & Sworn

Misrs. Amos Perkins Enos Knight & Joseph Andrews were Chosen hog Rieves May 9th 1775 Mr. Amos Perkins was Sworn

Mr. Jacob Averell Jur. was Chosen Surveyer of Clabboards & Shingles and was Sworn

Misrs. Solomon Dodge & Elijah Porter were Chosen Overseers of ye Poor

Misrs. Thos. Cummings Moses Perkins & Stephen Foster Jur. were Chosen a Comtee. to Supply the Town with a Grammer School Master

Mr. John Baker Jur. was Chosen Clerk of ye Market

Misrs. Jacob Kimball Richard Dexter & Stephen Foster were Chosen a Comtee. to Supply ye Town with a person to preach the Gosple in said Town, or any two of them to act

Voted that said Comtee. be Directed to get Mr. Manasa Smith to preach 2 Sabbath Days and ye fast Day

Voted to give Incouragement to Such minit men as shall inlist themselves agreeable to ye Recommendation of the Provincial Congress

Voted that ye incouragement shall be ye same as was reported to be, by a Comtee. in a former Town meeting, which is as followeth, Viz that when so many able body'd men, have inlisted themselves, as amounts to the number of one quarter part of the Training band, to do Duty agreeable to said Recommendation, and every able body'd man that inlists himself, shall be injoyn'd, to acquip himself with arms and all Other things, agreeable to said Recommendations, and shall be injoyn'd to attend Military Duty two half Days every week, During the Towns pleasure, and shall be paid one Shilling for each half Day the Town continues them in said service, the pay shall not exceed two half Days in each week, and the Capt. who shall have the Command of such men as inlists themselves into said Service, shall at the end of every month, give a certificate to the Selectmen, of how many half Days each Soldier has attended Duty as aforesaid, and the Selectmen shall give Orders, for the Town Treasurer, to pay each of them one shilling for every half Day they have spent as afore said

Voted this Meeting be Adjurn'd to Tuesday ye 21 day of this Inst. then to meet at the Meeting house, at one of ye Clock after noon

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, held by Adjournment ye 21 day of March 1775
Capt Saml. Smith Morderator

Voted that the Comtee. to Supply ye Pulpit, shall Get a sutable person to preach till ye 20th of May next, and that they hire Mr. Smith the whole of ye Time if they Can have him

Voted to Raise one hundred pounds to Defray ye Charge of Mending the highways, and Other Necessary Charges of the Town

Voted to appropriate Sixty pounds to Defray the Charges of Mending highways this year

Voted to mend the highways in ye same way and method as they did in the year 1772

Voted to Collect a Donation for the poor of Boston by a Subscription

Misrs. Thomas Emerson Isaac Averell Eliezer Lake & Enos Knight were Chosen a Comtee. to Collect a Donation for the poor of Boston

Voted that ye said Committee shall Compleat ye said Collection and exhibit an account in one month of what they have Collected to the Selectmen, and the Selectmen, & said Comtee, shall Determine how it shall be Convey'd to Boston

Voted to accept of the Selectmens Reckening, with ye Town Treasurer and there Remains in said Treasurers hands two Hundred & Sixty six pounds & five Shillings not Orded Out

Voted that Swine shall go at Large, they being yoked and Ringed as the Law Directs

Voted that the Selectmen shall Draw money Out of the Town Treasury to pay the Towns part of County Tax, it being six pounds Twelve Shillings and five pence

Misrs. Solomon Dodge Stephen Foster & Nathll. Dorman were Chosen a Committee to let Out the Parsonage land this year for the Most it will fetch

Misrs. Isaac Averell Amos Perkins & Amos Wildes were Chosen a Committee to Clear the brook from ye River to Prichards pond for ye fish to go up

Voted that the Selectmen shall be assessors

Voted to allow Capt. Joseph Gould and Others ye School Comtee. Viz for the School being kept five months £11 2s 3d
for 26 weeks boards £6 18s 8d
for wood £1 6s 3d

Voted to allow Capt. Stephen Perkins for paper 0 2 8

Voted allow Mr. Ephraim Towne for Timber and plank for Rowley Bridge So Call'd £7 6s 5d

Voted to allow Mr. Robert Perkins & Others for Clearing ye Brook for ye alewives to pass 1 11 6

Voted to Allow Mr. John Baker Jur. an abatement of John Gould ye 3d. Rates 12/2 & Willm. Danyers Rates 12/2 & Willm. Bunttings Rates 4/ 1 8 4

Voted to allow Mr. Amos Wildes for warning four Town Meetings 0 12 0

Voted to allow Mr. Enos Knight for warning four Town meetings 0 12 0

Voted that this Meeting be Adjurned to Tuesday the Eleventh of April next, then to meet at the Meeting house at one of the Clock afternoon

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield ye 21 March 1775 Assembled by Enos Knight Constable of sd. Topsfield

Mr. Joseph Cummings was Chosen to serve on ye Grand Jury at ye Infr. Court to be holden at Ipswich in March Instant

Misrs. Saml. Cummings & Nathaniel Fisk were Draw'd Out of the Box to Serve at said Court on ye Jury of Tryals

At a Legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, held by Adjurnment ye 11th of April 1775

The Morderator being Absent, Mr. Solomon Dodge, was Chosen Morderater of the meeting for this Day

Voted to Accept of Mr. Amos Wildes to serve as a Constable in the Room of Mr. Joseph Perkins, who was Chosen Constable ye 7 March 1775

Voted to allow Mr. Henry Bradstreet 11/9 an abatement of what Stephen Towne Jur. was Rated in his Lists £0 11 9

Voted that such of the inlisted Minit men, as have attended duty, according to a vote passed at a Town Meeting ye seventh of March last, and such of said Minit men as shall attend duty two half days in each week, shall each be paid one shilling for each half day During the Towns pleasure, notwithstanding there is not one quarter part of ye Training band inlisted

Voted to allow Mr. John Baker Jur. 8/2 an abatement of what Doctr. Thomas Swain was Rated in his Lists £0 8s 2d

Voted that this meeting be adjurned to Tuesday ye 25 Day of April Instant, then to meet at ye meeting house at 4 of the Clock afternoon

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants

of Topsfield, held by Adjournment the 25 day of April 1775 Capt. Saml. Smith Morderator

Voted that this meeting be Adjurned to Tuesday ye 9th Day of May next, then to meet at the Meeting house at 3 of the Clock afternoon

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, held by adjurnment ye 9th Day of May A D 1775 Capt. Saml. Smith Morderater

Voted that ye Present Selectmen be appointed to Settle the Mistake that is supposed to be in ye Rates, that was Committed to Mr. Henry Bradstreet Constable

Voted that the Comtee to supply the Pulpit with a sutable person to preach, be impowered to get a sutable person, to preach, Eight Sabbath Days from & after ye 20th of May Instent

Voted that the said Comtee. imply Mr. Manasa Smith the aforesaid eight Sabbath days, if they can have him

Voted that the Gramer school Master, be Dismised from keep- ing school any further, for the Present

Misrs. Israel Clarke Jur. Nathaniel Dorman & Capt John Bord- man were Chosen a Committee, to take Care and see that fish- ways are made and kept open through the Mill Dams, as the Laws Directs

May 9th 1775 Mr. Amos Wildes was Sworn as Constable

(Seal) Essex ss To Amos Wildes one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In his Majesties name you are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield that are qualified for Voteing as the Law Directs, to assemble and Convean To- gether at the meeting house on Tuesday the Twentythird Day of May instent at three of the Clock afternoon

1ly For the Town to Chuse a man or men to Represent said Town in Provencial Congress agreeable to the Recommendation of said Congress

2ly For the Town to act any Other matter or things that may Properly come before said Town to be acted on

3ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings, to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield May the 9th 1775

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Thos. Mower	
Israel Clarke Jur	

Pursuant to this Warrant I have warned all the free holders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield qualified for Voteing to Convean and meet Together at time and place within mentioned by posting this Warrant upon the side of the meeting house on a fast day which was on ye Day of the Date hereof

Topsfield May 11th 1775

Amos Wildes Constable of Topsfield

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield Leagally assembled the 23 day of May 1775

Capt Stephen Perkins was Chosen Morderater of said meeting
Deaⁿ. John Gould was Chosen to Represent the Town in the Provincial Congress, to be held at Watertown the 31 day of May Instent

Voted to allow Mr. Henry Bradstreet 3/ for warning ye Southward to attend a Town meeting £0 3 0

Voted that this meeting be Dissolved

Essex ss To Amos Wildes one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabtants that are qualified for voteing in Town meetings as the law directs to assemble & convean Together at the meeting house in said Town, on Tuesday the fourth day of July next at three of the Clock afternoon

1ly To see if Town will Chuse a man or men to represent said Town at a General Court or assembly to be Convend at Watertown on Wednesday the nineteenth day of July next agreeable to a request in a letter directed to the Selectmen by the Provincial Congress

2ly To see if the Town will give Docter Dexter and Others, the Committee already appointed, or such Others as the said Town may appoint, further instructions how to proseed in said Business, after the time is Expired, that the Town Directed said Comtee. to hire Mr. Smith for

3ly For the Town to agree and act on any matter or thing in Order, for Resettleing a Gosple minister in said Town that they shall think proper

4ly To allow Bills of Charge .

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield June 27th A D 1775

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Stephen Perkins	
Thos. Mower	
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Jur.	

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield, Legally assembled the 4 day of July 1775

1ly Deacon John Gould was Chosen to Represent the Town in the General Assembly, to be held at Watertown the nineteenth of July instent

2ly Capt. Saml. Smith was Chosen Morderater of said meeting

3ly Voted Docr. Richard Dexter Misrs. Stephen Foster and Jacob Kimball, the Comtee to Supply the Pulpit be impowe'd to supply further

4ly Voted that Mr. Solomon Dodge be one of said Comtee in the Room of Docr. Richd. Dexter who Resign'd

5ly Voted that the said Comtee. imploy Mr. Manasa Smith to preach till the 20th day of September next, if they can have him

6ly Misrs. David Balch Abraham Hobbs & Saml. Cummings were Chosen a Committee of Safty

7ly Voted to allow the School Comtee 84/10 for the School being kept two months £4 4 10

and for Boarding ye school Master 42/8 2 2 8

& for wood 6/ 0 6 0

8ly Voted to allow Capt Saml. Smith for his Travel and attendance at the General Court and Several Provinceial Congress 21 0 0

Voted that this Meeting be Dissolved

Essex ss To Amos Wildes one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting (Seal) In his Majestys Name you are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in said Town that are qualified by Law for voteing to Convean and meet Together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuesday the nineteenth day of September Instent at two of the Clock afternoon

1ly To See how much money the Town will agree to raise to Defray the Necessary Charges ariseing within ye same ye year Ensuing

2ly To Chuse a Comtee to Supply the Town with a sutable person to preach the Gosple in this Town, and give them such Instructions as the Town shall think proper

3ly To See if the Town will agree that the Surveyers shall give Credit on their highway Lists, to the several Selectmen as many Days work, as they were in makeing ye highway Rate in June last

4ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make Return of this warrant with your doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield Sepr. 6th 1775

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Stephen Perkins	
Thos Mower	
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Jur	

By Virtue of this Warrant I have warned all the within mentioned Freeholders and Other Inhabitants to appear at time and place within mentioned

Sept. 14th 1775 Amos Wildes Constable of Topsfield

The Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the South ward were warned by a like warrant, and a return made by
Joshua Town Constable of Topsfield

A true Copy of ye warrant & Return

Attest Elijah Porter Town Cler.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield Legally assembled the 19th of Sepr. 1775

Capt. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Morderater of said meeting

Mirs. Jacob Kimball Simon Gould & Saml. Cummings were Chosen a Comtee. to Supply ye Town with a sutable person to preach ye Gosple in said Town

Voted that said Committee be instructed to imply Mr. Manasa Smith, to preach two months from this time

Voted that ye Surveyers shall give Credit to the Selectmen on their highway Lists three Days each for their makeing the highway Rate last time

Voted to allow Dean. John Gould for his Travel and attendance at the Provincial Congress

£5 5 0

Voted to allow Elijah Porter for Boarding all those that Suppld the pulpet from ye 24 Apl. 1774 to ye 17 Sepr. 1775

12 8 4

Essex ss To Amos Wildes one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourthwith to warne

all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the North ward in said Town that are quallified by law for voteing, to Convean and Meet Together at the Meeting House in said town on Thursday the fourth day of January next at Two of the Clock

To Chouse a Town Clerke, a Town Treasurer, and one overseer of the poor, in the room of Elijah Porter Esqr. Deceased

Hereof faile not and make returne of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen of said Town at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield December 29 1775

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Stephen Perkins	
Thos. Mower	
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Jur.	

Pursuant to the within warrant I have warned all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the North ward to Convean and meet Together at time and place within mentioned

Dated in Topsfield January 3d 1776

Amos Wilde Constable of Topsfield

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the South ward was warned by a Like warrant, and return made at the same time and place by Joshua Towne Constable of Topsfield

Attest Saml. Smith Town Clerke

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield January 4th: 1776

1ly Samuel Smith was Chosen Moderater of Said Meeting

Voted

2ly Saml. Smith was Chosen Town Clerke and Sworn Voted

3ly Mr Jeremiah Averel was Chosen Town Treasurer Voted

4ly Mr Joseph Andrews was Chosen an Overseer of the poor

Voted

January 25th Mr Jeremiah Averel was Sworn as Treasurer for Topsfield

Essex: ss: To Amos Wilde one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are quallified for voting in Town meeting, in said town to Assemble and Convean Together at the Meeting House in Said town on Tuesday the fifth day of March Next at nine of the Clock in the Morning

1ly To Choose Selectmen a Town Clarke Constables, and all other town officers for the year Insuing as the Law Directs

2ly To see if the Town will axcept of the way laid out by the Selectmen from Mr John Reas House to the County road as by the return may appear

3ly To See if the town will Chouse a Committee to Supply the Town with a Suitable person to preach the gospel in said town and give them Instructions

4ly To See if the town will Chouse a Committee to Supply the town with a Schoolmaster

5ly To see how much money the town will raise to defray the Charge of Mending the Highways and Other Necessesary Charge in said town the Year Insuing

6ly To See how much money the town will Appropriate for the use of Mending the Highways the year Insuing

7ly To see if the town will Chouse a Committee to Take Care and Keep the fish ways open thro the Mill dams and Other places in the Brooks for Alewives to pass up said Brooks into the pond to Cast their Spawns without any Obstruction

8ly For the town to agree, if they see Cause, that no person shall Catch Alewives in the ways Made for alewives to pass up said Brooks at any time, and also to Agree what Number of days in a week and at what times, any person or persons may Catch Alewives in any Other place in said Brook without being Subject to the penalty of the Law, also to Chuse a Committee to See that Such votes as the Town shall pass be duly Observed as the Law directs

9ly For the Town to Chouse A man or men to Serve as a Committee of Corispondence Inspection and Safty for the year Insuing Agreeable to a Resolution of the General Court

10ly To see if the Town will accept of the Selectmens Reckoning with the town Treasurer

11ly To See if the Town will Chouse a man or men to let out the parsonage the year Insuing for the towns use

12ly To See if the Town will Let Swine go at Large the year Insuing as the Law directs

13ly For the town to Bring in their votes for a County Register

14ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof faile not and make returne of this warrant with your Doings to One or More of the Selectmen of Said town at time and place Above mentioned

Dated Topsfield February 27th 1776

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Stephen Perkins	
Israel Clarke Jur	

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield March 5th 1776

- 1ly Capt Stephen Perkins was Chosen Moderater Voted
- 2ly Israel Clarke Jr Saml Smith Capt Stephen Perkins John Peabody Thomas Mower were Chosen Selectmen Voted
- 3ly Capt Saml Smith was Chosen Town Clerke Voted
- 4ly Messrs. Stephen Foster Jr. & Bartholomow Dwinell were Chosen Constables and Sworn Voted
- 5ly Mr. Jeremiah Averell was Chosen Town Treasurer & Sworn

6ly Messrs. Thomas Porter and Jacob Kimball were Chosen wardens Voted and May 10th 1776 they was both sworn

Attest S. Smith Town Clerke

7ly Messrs. Daniel Towne Nathll. Dorman and David Balch Jur. was Chosen Tything men & all Sworn

8ly Messrs. Thomas Cummings Nehemiah Herrick Simon Gould & Thomas Perkins Jr. was Chosen Surveyors of highways and all Sworn

9ly Nehemiah Herrick Enos Knight & John Balch was Chosen fence Viewers Herrick & Knight Sworn

10ly Mr. David Perkins was Chosen & Sworn Sealer of Leather and was Sworn

11ly Mr. Nathll. Low was Chosen Deer rieve & Sworn

12ly Messrs. Amos Perkins Solomon Dodge & Nathll. Fiske was Chosen hog rieves all Sworn

13ly Mr. Jacob Averell Junr. was Chosen Surveyor of Clab-bord & Shingles & Sworn

14ly Capt. Joseph Gould & Moses Perkins was Chosen Overseers of the poor

15ly Messrs. David Balch Junr. Thomas Cummings & John Gould Junr. was Chosen a Comtee. to Supply the Town with a grammer School Master

16ly Jacob Kimball was Chosen Clerk of the Market

17ly Zaccheus Gould Saml Smith & Jacob Kimball was Chosen a Committee to Supply the town with a Suitable person to Preach the gospell in said Town

18ly The town agreed to raise by a Tax the Sum of one hundred pounds to defray the Charge of mending the Highways and other Necessary Charges in said Town the year Insuing Voted

19ly the Town agreed to Appropriate the Sum of Forty pound

of said Hundred to be paid in Labour mending the Highways in said town the year Insuing Voted

20ly Missrs. Isaac Averell Israel Clarke Jr. & John Batcheller was Chosen a Comtee. to keep the fish ways open through the mill dams made a Cross the Brooks in said town and Other places in Said Brooks, that the fish may pass up said Brooks into the pond, to Cast their Spawns without any Obstructions

21ly Voted that no person shall Catch fish Called alewives, at any time in the fish ways made for fish to pass up said Brooks through or by said mill dams

22ly Voted that Liberty is given to persons to Catch alewives with Scoop nets or Other wise in any Other place or places in Said Brooks But only one day in each week, and that to be only on Mondays in each week, and that only between the Suns rising and Setting, Provided they make no wares a Cross said Brooks to prevent said fish from passing up said Brooks without hendence

23ly The town voted to allow Deaⁿ. John Gould the sum of £9 5s 0d for his Service and Attendance at Congress in April and May last

24ly The town Voted to allow Mr. Joseph Cummings the Sum of £0 19s 3d for plank and timber to mend Lampsons Bridge so Calld

Then the town Voted that said meeting should be adjourned to Tuesday the Nineteenth day of March Instent to two of the Clock after noon then to Meet at the Meeting House, the Moderator Adjourned said Meeting Accordingly

Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield held by Adjournment March the 19th : 1776 Capt. Stephen Perkins Moderator

1ly Messrs. Nathl. Dorman David Towne & Stephen Foster was Chosen a Committee of Corispondence Inspection, and Safety for the year Insuing

2ly Messrs. Abraham Hobbs Simon Gould & David Balch Jr. was Chosen a Comtee. to Let out the Personage for the most it will fetch (for the towns use) the year Insuing Voted

3ly Voted to accept of the Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer Their being Two Hundred and Forty three pounds, Eleven Shillings & Two pence three farthings in Said Treasurers hands not ordered out

4ly Voted that Swine Should go att Large the Year Insuing provided they are yoked and Ringed as the Law directs

5ly Voted to Allow to Capt Stephen Perkins for paper £0 3s 7d

Then the town Voted to Adjourn said meeting to Tuesday

26th of March Instant at three of the Clock afternoon then to meet at the meeting House

Att a Legall Meeting in Topsfield March 19th. 1776 Assembled by Barth^m Dwinell Constable of said town. Mr. Isaac Averel was Chosen to Serve on the grand Jury at the Inferior Court to held at Ipswich in March Inst. and Mr. Jacob Dwinel was Chosen to Serve on the Jury of Tryals at said Court by being Drawn out of the Box

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield held by Adjournment 26th of March AD 1776 Capt Stephen Perkins Moderater

1ly Voted that the present Selectmen should be Assessors the present year

2ly Voted that the Committee Chosen the fifth of March Instant to Supply the town with a Suitable person to preach the gospel in said town be Instructed to git Mr John Shaw if he Can be Obtained

3ly Mr David Perkins was Chosen one of the Comtee to Supply the Town with a Suitable person to preach the Gosp^{le} in said town, in the place of Capt Samuel Smith who then declind said Service

On the 5th of March 1776 Majr. Joseph Gould was Sworn Clerke of the proprietors of Stickey Meadow (so Calld) Lying part in Topsfield and part in Boxford and part in Middleton By the town Clerk

Whereas the Town of Topsfield at their Meeting the 1st of March 1774 upon hereing the Petition of John Rea Jacob Dwinel Junr. and John Rea Junr. praying that the town would mend the way for them to go to Meeting in or Otherwise releave them as they should think proper after Consideration thereon, the Town voted that the Selectmen should lay Out a way for them. Therefore pursuant to the vote of said town at the above said meeting We the Subscribers have laid out a way as followeth Viz (Beginning at a Stone wall on land of Archellaus Rea, near John Reas House, then runing on Said Archellaus Reas land north five Degrees east Ninteen pole and nine links, then north Twenty five degrees East Thirty six poles and Twenty Links, then Northeast Sixteen pole then East three degrees South Eleven pole and Twenty links to land of Jacob Dwinel Junr. then runing on said Dwinells land East one pole and half, then North Twelve degrees east Six pole and fifteen links, then North thirty three degrees east Ten poles, then Northeast Twenty nine

poles, and five Links, then east Two degrees South Sixteen poles and ten Links, to land of Jacob Dwinel Senr. then runing on Said Dwinels land East Seven degrees South Twelve pole, Then east Twenty degrees South Seventeen poles and nine links, then east Eleven degrees north fourteen pole and Twenty links, then easterly Extending so far South on land of the heirs of Joseph Dwinel decd. as to make said way one rod and half in width from the Stone wall that Incloses Mr. Jacob Dwinel, moing land on the Northerly side of said way till it Comes to the County road, Said way is to Extend One rod and half to the west and North of the Above mentioned Lines with Liberty to hang Convenient Cart Gates A Cross Said road at the divisional lines of each persons Land

December 22nd 1775

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Stephen Perkins	
Thos. Mower	
Israel Clarke Jr.	
John Peabody	

Essex ss: To Stephen Foster Junr. One of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required fourth-with to warne all the freeholders and other Inhabitance, that are quallified for voting in Town meetings in the north ward in said town to Assemble and Convean Together at the Meeting House in sd town on Wednesday the Twenty fourth day of April Instant at three of the Clock afternoon

To See if the town will Chouse a man or men as a Committee to meet Such person or persons, as may be Chousen by the Several Towns in County of Essex, at a general meeting to be held at Mr. Treadwells Innholder at Ipswich, on Thursday the Twenty day of April Instant at One of the Clocke after noon, in Order to Agree upon a more Equal and Just Method in the Choice and representation of members to represent the Several Towns in the general Court for the future, then has been in times past Att the request of the Committee of Marblehead and Salem

Hereof you may not fail and make return of this warrant with your doings to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Topsfield 22 of April AD 1776

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Stephen Perkins	
Thos. Mower	
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Jur.	

Pursuant to the within warrant I have warned all the within mentioned freeholders and other Inhabitation in the north ward in Topsfield to appear at time and place within mentioned

Topsfield April 24th 1776 Stephen Foster Junr. Constable

The freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the South ward in Said Town was warned by a Like warrent as aforesaid and a Similler return made thereon by Bartholomew Dwinel Constable of Topsfield

Attest Sam. Smith Town Clerke

1ly Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield 24th: of April 1776 Mr. Israel Clarke Junr. was Chosen moderater Voted

Voted that Messrs. Israel Clarke Junr. and Abraham Hobbs be a Committee to meet the Committees Chousen by Other Towns in the County of Essex, at a meeting to be held at Ipswich on the 25th of April Instant in Order to Consider of what is or may be proposed or proper to be done, respecting a more Just and Equal Choice and representation of Members in the general Court for the future

2ly Voted that the meeting be dissolved

Essex ss To Batholomew Dwinel one of the Constables of the of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required fourthwith to warne all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are quallified for voting in the South ward in Said Town, that they Assemble and meet Together at the meeting House in said town on Tuesday the Twenty first day of May Instant at four of the Clock afternoon

1ly To Chouse a man or men to Represent said Town at the greate and general Court according to precept

2ly To see if the town will Inlarge the Committee already Chosen to Supply the Town with a Suitable person to preach the gospel in Said town, and to Chuse two or more persons for that purpose if they think proper

the directions to make returne of ye warrant is Casually Omitted, but is in ye Common forme

3ly To allow Bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield May the 15th 1776

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke	

Pursuant to the within warrant I have warned the within Named Inhabitants by posting at the publik fast

Dated Topsfield May 20th 1776

Bartholomew Dwinel Constable

The Inhabitants of the North ward was warned by virtue of a like warrant and a Like returne made by Stephen Foster Junr.
Constable Attest Sam. Smith T Clarke

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield May 21th: 1776

Deaⁿ John Gould was Chosen to Represent said Town in the greate and general Court the Year Insuing
their being Other Business to be done

Capt. Stephen Perkins was Chosen moderater

It was put to vote to See if the Town would Inlarge the Comtee Already Chosen to Supply the Town with a Suitable person to preach the gospel in said Town, and it passed in the Negative

Then Said Meeting was dissolved

Essex ss: To Stephen Foster Junr: One of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required fourth-with to warne all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are quallified for voteing in the north ward in Said town, to Assemble and Convean Together at the meeting house in Said Town on fryday the fourteenth of June Instant at three of the Clock after noon

1ly To see if the Town will Choose a man to take recognizance of Debts in said town, and on failure of payment, to grant out Execution for the recovery of Such Debts in manner as directed by a late Act of the general Court

2ly To see if the Inhabitants of this town agree, whether, in Case the Honorable Congress for the Safty of the united Colonies Should declare them Independent of the Kingdom of greate Britten, they will Solemnly engage with their Lives and fortune, to Support them in the Measure, and give Mr. John Gould their Representative Such Instruction for that purpose as they Shall think proper

3ly To Choose two good and Lawfull men in manner as jurors are drawn out of the box to Serve at the Superior Court &c to Serve on the jury in the Court erected to try and Condemn all vessels that shall be found infesting the Sea Coasts of America, and brought into Either of the Counties of Suffolk, Middlesex, or Essex, to be held at Salem in said County of Essex, on Monday the Seventeenth day of June Instent at the hour of ten in the forenoon According to Venure

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings to One or more of the Selectmen of said town at time place above mentioned

Dated June ye 11th: 1776

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Stephen Perkins	
Thos. Mower	
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Jr	

In Pursuance to the within warrant I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the north ward in Topsfield to Convean Together at the meeting House in Said town at time and place as within mentioned

Dated Topsfield June 14th. 1776

Stephen Foster Jur. Constable

The Inhabitants in the South ward in Said town was warned by virtue of a Like warrant, and a Like return made by Bartholomew Dwinel Constable of Said town

Attest Saml. Smith Town Clerke

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield the 14th: day of June 1776

1ly Capt. Thomas Baker was Chosen Moderator Voted

2ly Voted that in Case the Honorable the Continantal Congress Shall think fit, for the Safty of the united Colonies to declare them Independent of the Kingdom of greate Britten this town do Solemnly engage to defend and Support the measure, both with their Lives and fortunes to the uttmot of their power

2ly Israel Clarke Junr Capt Stephen Perkins and Solomon Dodge was Chosen a Committee to prepare a Draft for Instructions for Mr. John Gould Representative of Said town, for a rule for his Conduct in the general Court, respecting the united Colonies in America being declar'd Independent of the Kingdom of greate Britten by the Continantal Congress, and to report Said draft to the town at there next meeting Voted

3ly Capt. Samuel Smith, and Mr. David Perkins was drawn out of the box to Serve as Jurors at a Court of Admiralty to be held at Salem on the Seventeenth day of this Instant June

Then the Town Ajourn'd Said meeting to fryday the 21st: of June Instant to four of the Clock after noon, then to meet at the Meeting house

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield held by adjournment the 21st: of June 1776 Capt. Thomas Baker Moderator

1ly The Comtee. that was Chosen to draw a Draft of Instructions for Mr. John Gould Representative of Said town, & re-

ported the following Draft which is hereafter recorded on the other leaf, which was read and accepted and voted that Capt. Stephen Perkins Messrs. Solomon Dodge and Israel Clarke Junr. be a Committee to draw Said Instructions into a fair draft, and forward the same to Said Representative Voted

2ly The Town made Choise of Capt. Samuel Smith to take Recognizence of debts, and on failure of payment at the time Limited in their Obligation for payment, to grant Executions for the recovery thereof Agreeable to a late Law of this Colony made for that purpose Voted

On the 4th of July 1776 Messrs. Solomon Dodge Samuel Bradstreet and Moses Wildes ware Sworn to the faithfull Discharge of the office of hawards, or field Drivers, of the Common field Meadows so Calld. Lyeing in Ipswich, belonging to a Number of Proprietors in Topsfield & Wenham, by the Town Clerke of Topsfield and on the 5th day of July Messrs. Joseph Andrews and Thomas Cummings ware Sworn hawards, or field drivers of the Same Common field meadows, to act with the afore said Dodge and Others the year Insuing, all Sworn by the Town Clarke

The Instructions before mentioned that was Voted to be given to Mr. John Gould Representative of Said town are as followeth

To Mr John Gould Representative of Topsfield Sir a resolution of the Honorable House of Representatives, Calling upon the Several Towns in this Collony, to express their minds with respect to American Independence, of the Kingdom of greate Britten is the Ocasion of our giveing you Instructions this being the greatest question that ever Came before this town, a few years ago Sir, Such a question would have put us in a greate Surprise, and we apprehend would have been Treated with the uttmmost Contempt; we then on ourselves, happy in being the Subjects of the King of greate Britten, it being our fore fathers native Country, we Looked up unto them, as our pairent States and we have always Look'd upon it as our duty as well as Interest, to defend and Support the honor and Dignity of the Crown of greate Britten and we have always freely done it both with our Lives and fortunes. Counting our Selves happy when in the Strictest union and Connection with our pairent State, but the Sene is now Changed, our minds and Sentiments are now altered. She that was call'd our Mother Country and pairent State is now without any Just Cause or Injury done by these Colonies, become their greatest enemies. The unprovoked Injuries

these Colonies have received, the unjustifiable and unconstitutional Claimes that have been made on these Colonies by the Court of great Britten, to Tax us and take away our Substance from us, and that at any time, and for any use that they please without our Consent, and the Cruel prosecuting these their Claims have been Cruel and unjust to the Highest degree, the whole Conduct of the Court of greate Britten, and the fallacious Conduct of their Governors appointed and Sent into these Colonies are so well known, and have been by much Abler hands Set fourth in Such a Clear true and plaine Light, we think it needless to Inumerate any further perticulers, for these reasons Sir as well as many others that might be mentioned we are Confirmed in the oppinion, that the unrighted Colonies will be greatly wanting in their duty, both to the greate governor of the Univers to themselves and posterity if Independence of the Kingdom of greate Britten is not declared as Soon as may be, these being our Sentiments, but we would not be understood that we mean to dictate, Leaveing that momenteus afaire to the well known wisdom prudence Justice and Intigrity of that honourable body the Continantal Congress, under whose direction it more Immediatly belongs, And in respect to a forme of Government for the future

We take it, that belongs to an after question, and we Could wish that no Court nor Congress on this Continent might Spend their time in debateing About forms and Serimories; equall or unequal representation in Court at present as enovasions are always dangerus, we hartily wish, that the Antiant rules in the Charter, which this province has been So much Contending for, might be Strictly adhear'd to, till Such time as the whole of the people of this Colony have Liberty to express their Sentiments in respect to that afaire, as fully as they have in Cause of Independence, for we are full in the Opinion, that the Sentiments of the people in general are never fully Collected by the vote or Opinion of a few persons meat together, (tho appointed) when they descend into matters of greate Importance that are wholly new, and especially when the whole of the people are Immediatly Concerned therein, Haveing thus freely spoken our Sentiments in respect to Independence &c We now Instruct you Sir, to give the Honorable, the Continantal Congress the Strongest Asuerances that if, for the Safty of the united Colonies, they shall declare America to be Independant of the Kingdom of greate Britten your Constituants will Support and defend the measure with Lives and fortunes to the uttmmost of their power

The following is the Declaration of Independence of the American Colonys of the Kingdom of greate Britten In Congress July 4th : 1776

A Declaration of the Representatives of the United States of America, In general Congress Assembled

When in the Course of humane Events, it becomes Necessary for one people to desolve the polittial bands which Connected them with Another, and to Assume Among the powers of the Earth, the Seperate and Equal Station to which the Laws of nature and of natures God Entitles them, a decent respect to the Opinions of mankind requires that they Should declare the Causes which impell to the Separation. We hold these Truths to be Self Evident, that all men are Created equal, that they are Endowed by their Creator with Certain unalienable rights, that Among these are life, Liberty, and the pursuit of happiness: That to Secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their Just powers from the Consent of the governed, That whenever any forme of government becoms destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people To alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government. Laying its foundation on Such principles, And organizing its powers in Such form as then Shall Seem most Likely to Effect their Safety and happiness Prudence, Indeed, will dictate that governments Long Established Should not be Changed for light and Transient Causes; and accordingly all Experiance hath Shewn, that mankind are more disposed to Suffer, while Evils are Sufferable, then to right themselves by Abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed, but when a Long train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing Invariably the Same Object, Evinces a design to reduce them under Absolute Despotism, It is their right, It is their duty, to throw off Such government, And to provide new guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and Such is now the Necessity which Constrains them to alter their former Systems of government. The history of the present King of greate Britten is a history of repeated injuries and Usurpations, all haveing in direct objects the Establishment of an Absolute Tyranny, over these States, to prove this Let facts be Submitted to a Candid world. He has refused his assent to Laws, the most wholsom and necessary for the publick good. He has forbidden his governors to pass Laws of Immediate and pressing Importance, unless Suspended in their Opperation untel his Assent Should be Obtained: and when so Suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them. He has refused to pass Other Laws

for the Accomodation of Large destricts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation, in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only. He has Called together Legislative bodys at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Publick records, for the Sole purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his measures. He has desolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for Opposeing with manly firmness his Invasion on the rights of the people. He has refused for a Long time, after such dissolutions, to Cause others to be Elected, whereby the Legislative powers, Incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the people at Large for their Exercise, the State remaining in the mean time Exposed to all the dangers of Invasions from without, And Convulsions within. He has Endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose Obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of foreigners, refusing to pass Others to Encourage their Migration heither and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands. He has Obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for Establishing Judiciary powers. He has made Judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their Salleries. He has erected a multitude of new offices, and Sent heither Swarms of officers to harras our people and eate out their Substance. He has Kept among us in times of peace, Standing armies without the Consent of our Legislature. He has affected to render the military Independent of, and Superior to the Civel power. He has Combined with Others to Subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws, giving his Assent to their Actes of pretended Legislation, for quartering Large bodies of Armed troops amongs us, for protecting them by a mock trial from punishment for any murders which they Should Commit on the Inhabitance of these States, for Cutting of our trade with all parts of the world. For Imposing Taxes on us without our Consent. For depriving us in many Cases of the bennefit of Trial by Jury. For Transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences. For Abolishing the free System of English Laws in a Neighbouring province Establishing therein an Arbitrary Government, and Enlarging its Boundaries So as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for Introducing the Same Absolute rule into these Colonies. For Taking away our Charters Abolishing our Most Valuable Laws and altering fundementally the forms of our government. For Suspending our own Legislatures and declare-

ing themselves Invested with power to Legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever. He has abdicated government hereby declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us. He has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns and destroyed the Lives of our people. He is at this time Transporting Large armies of foreign Mercenaries to Compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny already began with Circumstances of Cruelty and perfidy Scarcely paralleled in the most barbarus Ages, and totally unworthy the head of a Sivillized nation. He has Constrained our fellow Cittizens, Taken Captive on the high Seas to bare arms Against their Country, to become the Executioners of their friends and bretheren or to fall themselves by their hands. He has Excited domestic Insurrection Amongst us, and has Endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitation of our fruntiers, the merciless Indian Salvages, whose Known rule of war fair is an undistinguished destruction, of all Ages, Sexeses, and Conditions. In Every Stage of these opressions we have petitioned for redress, in the most humble terms; our petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury: A Prince whose Character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant is unfit to be the ruler of a free people; nor have we been wanting in attention to our British Brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their Legislature to Extend an unwarrantable Jurysdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appealed to their Native Justice and Magnanimity, and we Conjured them by the ties of our Common Kindred to disavow these usurpations which would Inevitably Interrupt our Connections and Corispondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of Justice and of Consanguinity. We must therefore Acquesce in the Necessity which denounces our Seperation and hold them, as we hold the rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in peace friends. We therefore the Representatives of the United States of America in general Congress Assembled Appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the Rectitude of our Intentions do in the name and by the Authority of the good people of these Colonies Solemnly Publish and declare, that these united Colonies are and of right out to be, free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the Brittish Crown, and that all Political Connections between them and the State of greate Brittain is, and ought to be Tottally dissolved, and that as free and Independent States they have full power to Levy war, Conclude peace, Contract Alliances, Establish Commerce,

and to do all other Acts and things, which Independent States may of right do, and for the Support of this Declaration with a firm reliance on the protection of divine providence, we mutually Pledge to Each other our Lives, and fortunes and Our Sacred Honor

Signed by Order, an in behalf of Congress

John Hancock President

Attest Charles Thompson Secretary

In Council July 17th 1776

Ordered that the declaration of Independence be printed : and Copy Sent to the Ministers of each Parish of every denomination within this State; and they Severally be required to read the Same to their respective Congregations, As Soon as divine Service is ended, in the afternoon, on the first Lords day after they Shall have received it

And After Such publication thereof to Deliver the said declaration to the Clerks of their Several Towns or Districts; who are hereby required to Record the Same in their respective town or districts Books their to remaine as a perpetual Memorial thereof

In the name and by order of the Council

Richard Derby Junr President

A True Copy

Attest John Avery Dep: Secy

Essex ss To Stephen Foster Junr: one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required fourth-with to warne all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the North ward in said town that are Quallified for voting in town meetings, that they assemble & Convean Together at the Meeting House in said town on Wednesday the Eighteenth day of September Instant at Two of the Clock after noon

1ly To see how much money the Town will agree to raise to defray the necessary Charges arising within the Same the year Insuing

2ly To Chose Jury men for Newbury port Court according to venire

3ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof faile not and make returne of this warrant with your doings to one or more of the Selectmen at time & place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield September 9th : 1776

Saml. Smith

Thos. Mower

John Peabody

Israel Clarke Junr

} Selectmen
of Topsfield

In Persuance of the within warrant I have warned all the free holders and Other Inhabitants in the north ward in Topsfield to Convean Together at the Meeting house in Said town at time and place as within Mentioned

Topsfield Sept. 18th: 1776 Stephen Foster Jr. Constable

The free holders and Other Inhabitation of the South ward in Said town ware warned by a Like warrant, and Similer return made by Bartholomew Dwinel Constable of Topsfield

Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield September 18th: 1776

1ly Mr. Stephen Foster was Chosen Moderator Voted

2ly The town Agreed to raise the Sum of one Hundred pounds to defray the Charges ariseing in Said town the year Insuing

Voted

3ly Messrs. John Perkins Junr. and Abraham Hobbs was drawn out of the Box to Serve as Jurors at Newbury port Court

4ly The town voted that the Surveyors of highways, Shall give each of the Selectmen three days Credit on their highway Lists for their Service in makeing the Highway rate this present year

Voted

5ly The town allowd to Constable Jacob Kimball 18/5 1/2 0: 18: 5 1/2 it being what Enoch Perkins decd. was rated in his rate List

6ly The town allow'd to Thomas Porter the Sum of £18: 19: 7 in full for Boarding the Several persons that Preached the gospel in Topsfield from the 24th of September 1775 to the 15th of September 1776

Essex ss To Stephen Foster Junr. one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required forthwith to warn all the male Inhabitants of the North ward in the Town of Topsfield being free and Twenty one years of age or upward, To Assemble and Convean Together at the Meeting House in sd. Town on Tuesday the eighth day of October Instant at one of the Clock after noon

1ly For the town to Consider and determin whether they will give there Consent, that the present House of Representatives of this State of Massachusetts Bay together with the Council if they Consent in one body, with the House, Shall Agree on and Anact Such a Constitution and forme of Government for this State, as they Shall Judge will most Conduce to the Safety peace and happiness of this State in all after Successions and generations &c as Set fourth in a Resolve of the general Court

2ly To Chuse a man to Serve as a grand Juror at the Superior Court to be holden at Salem on the first Tuesday of November next And also to Appoint in Manner as the Law directs a man to Serve at said Court as a pettit Juror

3ly To See if the town will Chuse a Comtee to Supply the town with a Suitable person to preach the gospel, and to give said Committee Instructions, Agreeable to a request of Joseph Town and others

4ly To see if the town will allow Leiut. Samuel Cummings Such Sum of Money as may Appear that he was Made up in the pay rool for his Service in garding the Coasts and harbour of Glocester in October last, as a Lieut

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Select men of said town at time and place above mentioned

Dated October 1st. 1776

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Thos. Mower	
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Jr.)	

In Pursuance of the within warrant I have warned all in the North ward that are Twenty one years of Age and upwards to Convean Together at the Meeting House in said town at time and place as within Mentioned

Stephen Foster Junr. Constable of Topsfield

Dated Topsfield October 7th: 1776

The Inhabitants of the South ward in Said town were warned by a Like Warrant and a Similer return made by Barth^w Dwinel Constable of Topsfield

A True Copy of the Warrant and return

Test Saml. Smith Town Cler

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield the 8th of October 1776

1ly Mr. Stephen Foster was Chosen Moderator Voted

2ly The town Chose a Committee to Consider and report to the town what they Should Judge proper for the town to do respecting the townes giving their Consent that the present House of Representatives and the Council if they See Cause, Should Anact a forme of Constitution and Government for this State of Massachusetts Bay for the future According to a Resolve of said Representatives Voted

3ly Capt John Bordman Israel Clarke Junr. and Saml. Smith was Chosen a Committee for the aforesaid Service Voted

4ly Mr Stephen Foster was a Grand juror to Serve at the Superior Court to be holden at Salem on the fifth day of November next and Mr. Simon Gould was Drawn out of the Box to Serve on ye Pettit Jury at Said Court

5ly It was put to vote to see if the town would Choose a Comtee. to Supply the town with a Suitable person to preach the Gospel in on the request as Set forth in the warrant & it past in ye Negative

6ly A Motion was made desireing to Know whether the town had a Desire to hear Mr. Joans any further, which was put to vote, and it passed in the Affirmative by a very Large Majority

7ly Capt. Thomas Baker and Mr. David Balch Senr. was Drawn out of the Box to Serve as Jurors at the Court of Admiralty to be holden at Salem on the fifteenth and Eighteenth days of Octr. Inst.

Then the town Voted to Adjourn Said meeting to Tuesday the 22nd of October Instant to two of the Clock after noon
the Moderator Adjourn'd said Meeting Accordingly

Att a Legall Meeting held by Adjournment October 22d 1776
Mr. Stephen Foster Moderator

1ly The Committee that was Chosen to Consider and report to the town what they should Judge proper for the town to do respecting giving their Consent that the present House of Representatives and the Councils Anacting a Constitution and forme of government for this State; Made report to the Town, which was read Sunday was Accepted and Voted that the town Clerke Cause the Same to be drawn into a fair Draft, and forwarded to the Secry. of this State by the first Oppertunity

2ly it was put vote to See if the town would desier the whole of the Comtee. Chosen to Supply the town with a Suitable person to preach the gospel Should Supply said town any Longer, and it passed in the Affirmative Mr. Zaccheus Gould one of said Committee then refused to Serve any Longer

3ly Mr. Amos Perkins was Chosen one of said Comtee. in the room of Zaccheus Gould who refused to Serve Voted

Then Missrs. David Perkins and Jacob Kimball the other two of said Comtee. Declined Serveing any longer

4ly Mr. Solomon Dodge was Chosen as one of said Comtee. to Supply the Town with a Suitable person to preach the gospel Voted

5ly Mr. Moses Perkins [was chosen as] one of Said Committee to Supply the town with a Suitable person to preach the gospel Voted

Essex ss To Stephen Foster Junr. one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required forthwith to warn all the freeholders and other Inhabitants that are quallified for voting in town meeting in the North ward in Said town on the Shortest notice to assemble Together at the Meeting House in Said town on Tuesday the 22 day of October Instant Immediately after the Meeting which is to held on said day by adjournment Over

lly For the town to Choose a man or men to Serve as Committee of Corispondence Inspection and Safety, with Messrs. Stephen Foster and David Town in the room of Mr. Nath^l. Dorman Deceas^d.

Hereof faile not and make return of this Warrant with your Doings to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above Mentioned

Dated Topsfield October 17th 1776

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Thos. Mower	
John Peabody	

Pursuant to the Within Warrant I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the North Ward in Topsfield to Convean Together at the Meeting House in said town at time and place as within mentioned

Topsfield October 22nd: 1776

Stephen Foster Jr. Constable

Hear follows the vote the town passed at the town meeting October 22nd 1776 respecting giving their Consent that the present house of Representatives and the Councils, Anacting a Constitution & forme of Government for this State of Massachusetts Bay for the future Viz

It being a time as we apprehend that the perplexing affairs of this State are Sufficent to take up the whole attention of the general Court, properly to Conduct the Same, and altho' the members of the present House of Representatives are numerus many of them are new, and we are not aquanted with them, and we Cannot but hope that before the next Choice of Representatives the Late act of Tolleration for towns to send to Court Such numbers of persons, which Act we fear was Obtained only to Serve the Interest of perticuller parties, under a pretence of Equal representation will be Repealed and the Court will return to or near to the antient rule of Representation in the general Court, and we hope members will be then Chosen, that will

Look upon it their duty, not only to Represent particular parties, nor their own town only, but the whole State in general, and then, and not till then, we Shall have an equal representation in the general Court. Therefore we are not willing that the present house of representatives and Council, Should anact, and pass a Constitution and forme of Government for this State of Massachusetts Bay for the future But we are willing that the present house of representatives & ye Council Should Draw Such a Drafte of Constitution and forme of Government as they Shall Judge will most Conduce to the Safety peace and happiness of this State, and also Cause a printed Copy thereof to be Sent into Every town and District in this State for the Inspecting and perusal of the Inhabitants till after the next May Session of the general Court that the Several towns if they See Cause, may then Instruct their Representatives, to Cause the Whole, or Such Part thereof, or with Such Alteration as they may think proper to make, to be anacted and pass into Law for this State

Essex ss To Stephen Foster Junr. One of the Constables of the town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required fourth-with to warn all the freeholders and Other inhabitants that are quallified for voting in the north ward in Said town, to Assemble and convean Together at the Meeting House in said town on Tuesday the seventh day of January next at one of the Clock after noon on sd. day

1ly To see if it be the minds of this town to give Mr Elias Joanes an Invitation to Settle in the work of the ministry in this town Agreeable to a request of Capt John Bordman & Others

2ly To see if the town will Agree that this towns proportion of the Charge of the Present war Shall be bourn Equally by a tax on poles and estates of the Inhabitants of this town begining on the nineteenth day of April 1775 and to proceed on any further Method in order to Accomplish Said business that the town shall think proper

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield December 30th: 1776

Saml. Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Thos. Mower	
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Jr.	

In Pursuance to the within warrant I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the North Ward in Tops-

field to convean together at the Meeting House in said town at time and place as within mentioned

Topsfield January 6th 1777 Stephen Foster Jr. Constable

The South ward in Said town was warned by a Like warrant and a Similer return made by Bartholomew Dwinel Constable of Topsfield
Attest Saml. Smith Town Cler

Att a Legall town Meeting in Topsfield January 7th 1777

1ly Capt Stephen Perkins was Chosen Moderator

2ly It was put to vote to see if it be the minds of the town to give Mr Elias Joans an invitation to Settle in the work of the Ministry in this town And it passed in the affirmative Voted

3ly It was put to vote to see if it be the minds of the town that the Charge of the War Shall be bourn Equally by a tax on poles and estates, begining on the nineteenth day of April 1775 and it passed in the Affairmative

4ly The Town then proceeded And made choice of Messrs. Joseph Gould, Joseph Cummings, Thomas Porter, Thomas Cummings, David Perkins, David Towne, Isaac Averel, Thomas Mower, and Zaccheus Gould, to take an Account of what each person has paid in money toward the Charges of raising men in this town for the present war and for what use /that is/ Sence ye 19th. day of April 1775 And also an Account of what Service each person has done in said War, and at what place

[and also to Proportion what each person ought to pay according to his estate toward every hundred pounds expended in said town in raiseing men to Support the war]

The above three lines was Entered tho' a Mistake

Essex ss To Stephen Foster Junr. One of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required forthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are Quallified for Voteing in the North ward in Said town to Assemble and Convean Together at the Meeting House in said town on Thursday the Thirteenth day of february Inst. at one of the Clock after noon

1ly To see if the Town will accept of the Report of the Committee that was Chosen to take an account what each person in sd. Town has paid in money Toward the Charge of raiseing men in this town for the present war, and also an Account what Service each person has done in Said war Sense the 19th day of April 1775 or for the Town to Act on any other Method in order to Accomplish Said business that the town Shall think best

2ly To see if the town will agree to give Som further Incour-

agement to Such men as Shall Enlist into the American Service for the Term of three years or dureing the present war

Hereof faile not and Make returne of this Warrant with your doings to one or more of the Selectmen of Said town at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield February 10th 1777

Saml Smith	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Stephen Perkins	
Thos Mower	
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Jur.	

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield February 13th: 1777

1ly Capt. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Moderater Voted

2ly The Committee Chosen to Take an Account what each person in said town has paid in Money Towards the Charge of raising men in this town for the present warr &c made report which was read and being put to vote was not accepted

3ly The Town voted to give to each man that Shall Enlist as a volintier or to Serve in the American Army for the terme of three years or dureing the war, the sum of Eight pounds as a further Incouragement more then what the Congress, and Court has given as a County, and it passed in the Affirmative

4ly On a motion made the above report was recommitted for amendment and Samuel Smith, Israel Clarke Junr. Eliezer Lake, Solomon Dodge, and Deacon John Gould was Added to Said Committee Voted

Then the Town voted to Adjourn Said meeting to thursday the 20th day of february Instant, to one of the Clock after noon then to meet at the meeting House. The Moderater adjourn'd Said Meeting accordingly

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield held by Adjournment from february the 13th. 1777 To february the 20th 1777

The town being meat Capt Stephen Perkins Moderater

1ly the report of the above Committee being read Againe with the amendment and being put to vote was accepted

Then the Town voted further to Adjourn Said meeting to the day that Shall hereafter be Appointed for the Choice of Town Officers in March next then to Meet at the meeting House

The moderater adjournd Said Meeting Accordingly

Att a Legall Town in Topsfield held by adjournment from february 13th 1777 to March 18th. 1777 Capt. Stephen Perkins moderator

1ly A motion was made to see if the town would reconsider their vote passed at the Adjournment of this meeting on the 20th of february last, for the acceptance of the report of the Comtee. before mentioned, and being put to vote it passed in the Affirmative and was reconsidered

Then the Town voted to Adjourn Said Meeting to the 25th of March Inst. to 12 of ye Clock on Said day then to meet at ye Meeting House the moderator Adjourned sd meeting accordingly

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield held by Adjournment from february 13th: 1777 to March 25th 1777 Capt. Stephen Perkins Moderator

1ly On a Motion made, It was put to vote to see if the town would reconsider their vote passed at this meeting on the Adjournment the 13th of febr. Last and Accept of said report, And it passed in the affirmative

2ly It was put to vote to see if the Town would reconsider their vote passed the 13th of february last, to give to each man that Shall Inlist into the American Service for the Term of three years or during the war as an Incouragement the Sum of Eight pounds And it passed in the affirmative and was reconsidered

3ly The Town voted to give to each man that Shall Inlist into the Continantal Army to Serve as Soldiers in the defence of America for the term of three years or during the war, the Sum of Eighteen pounds in Addition to what the Congress and Court has given as a bounty to Such as Shall Enlist

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March 18th: 1777 warned by Stephen Foster Junr. Constable

1ly Solomon Dodge was Chosen to Serve on the grand Jury the year Insuing

2ly Joshua Towne and Enos Knight was drawn out of the Box to Serve on ye pettit Jury at the next Inferier Court to be holden at Ipswich on ye 25 of March 1777

Essex ss. To Bartholomew Dwinel one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourth-with to warn all the free holders and Other Inhabitents that are qualified for voteing in Town Meeting in the South ward in Said town to Assemble and Convean Together at the Meeting house in said town on Tuesday the Eighteenth day of March Instant at nine of the Clock in the Morning

1ly To Chouse Selectmen Constables a Town Clerke, and all other town officers for the year Insuing as the Law directs

2ly To Chouse a Committee of Corispondence Inspection and Safety for the year Insuing

3ly To Chouse a Suitable person to take Recognizence of Debts and to make Records of the Same and to proceed in said business as the Law directs &c for the year Insuing

4ly To see if the Town will Choose a Committee to Supply the Town with a Schoolmaster

5ly To see if the Town will accept of the Selectmens Reaconing with the Town Treasurer

6ly To see how much money the town will Agree to raise to defray the Charge of Mending the Highways and Other Necessary Charges in said town the year Insuing

7ly To See how much money the Town will Agree to Appropriate to be paid in Labour at mending the Highways this year or to be paid in money as usual

8ly To see if the Town will Agree to Let Swine go at Large the Year Insuing Provided they are Yoked and ringed as the Law directs

9ly To see if the Town will Choose a man or men to Let out the Personage to such person as will give the most for it, for the towns use the year Insuing

10ly To see if the town will Choose a Comtee. to Take Care that the fishways are kept open throu^o the Mill dams in said Town as the Law Directs the Year Insuing

11ly To See if the Town will agree to the Same rules and Methods relateing to the Catching Alewives in Said Brooks, that they Agreed upon the Last year

12ly To Allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doing to one or more of the Select men at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield March 7th 1777

Stephen Perkins	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Samuel Smith	
Thomas Mower	
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Junr.	

Pursuant to the within Warrant I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitence that are quallified for voting in the South ward to Appear at time and place within Mentioned
Topsfield March 7th 1777 Bartholomew Dwinel Constable

The Inhabitance Quallified for Voting in the North ward

ware Notified by a Like Warrant and a Similler return made by
Stephen Foster Junr. Constable of Topsfield

Attest Saml Smith Town Clarke

Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield March 18th : 1777

- 1ly Capt. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Moderator Voted
- 2ly Capt Stephen Perkins Thomas Mower John Peabody Israel
Clarke Jr. Saml. Smith was Chosen Selectmen
- 3ly Samuel Smith was Chosen Town Clarke Voted
- 4ly Jacob Peabody & David Balch Junr was Chosen Constables
for the year Insuing Voted
- 5ly Jeremiah Averel was Chosen Town Treasurer Voted
- 6ly Nathaniel Low & Nathan Hood was Chosen Wardens
Voted
- 7ly Capt. Thomas Baker Isaac Averel & Thomas Cummings
was Chosen Tything men Voted
- 8ly Moses Wilds John Gould Jr. Daniel Bixby & Joseph Cum-
mings Jr. was Chosen Surveyors of highways Voted
- 9ly Joseph Andrews Capt John Bordman & Nathan Wildes
was Chosen fence Viewers Voted
- 10ly David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of Leather Voted
- 11ly John Bradstreet was Chosen Deer rief Voted
- 12ly Amos Wilds Nathan Wildes & Thomas Emerson was
Chosen Hogg rieves and Sworn
- 13ly Jacob Averel Junr. was Chosen Surveyor of Clabbords &
Shingles
- 14ly Capt. John Bordman Capt. Thomas Baker was Chosen
Oversears of the poor
- 15ly Paletiah Cummings Isaac Averel & David Towne Junr.
was Chosen a Comtee to Supply ye town with a Schoolmaster
- 16ly Capt. John Baker was Chosen Clerk of the market
- 17ly Saml. Smith was Chosen to take Recognizence of debts
&c as ye law Directs
- 18ly the Town Accepted of the Selectmens Reckoning with
ye town Treasurer their being then in sd Treasurers hands not
ordered out £198 5s 1d 2
- 19ly The Town Agreed to raise one hundred pounds to defray
the Charge of Mending highways and Other Necessary Charges
in Said town Voted
- 20ly The Town Agreed to Appropriate the Sum of Forty
pounds of the sd hundred to be paid in Labour at mending the
highways Voted
- 21ly The Town Agreed to let Swine go at Large ye year In-
suing Provided they are Yoked and ringed as the law directs

22ly Messrs. Solomon Dodge Jacob Kimball & Simon Gould were Chosen a Committee to Let out the Personage ye Year Insuing for the most it will fetch for the towns use

23 John Perkins Junr. Stephen Foster Junr. & Capt. John Bordman were Chosen a Comtee to Take Care that the fish-ways thro' the mill dams are kept open this year as the Law directs

24 The Town Agreed to ye Same rules and Method respecting the Catching of fish in the said Brooks as they Agreed to the Last year

Then the town voted to Adjourn said meeting to Tuesday the 25th of March Instant to two of the Clock after noon, then the Moderator Adjourned said Meeting accordingly

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield held by adjournment from March the 18th. Instent to March 25th Instent the Town being meet Capt. Stephen Perkins Moderator

1ly Joseph Cummings Jr. was Chosen Constable in the room Jacob Peabody who refused to serve & paid his fine Voted

2ly The town Choose Messrs. Solomon Dodge Isaac Averel, Majr. Joseph Gould, David Perkins and Thomas Cummings a Committee of Corispondence Inspecting and Safety for the year Insuing Voted

Then town voted to Adjourn Said Meeting to Tuesday ye first day of Aprill 1777 to 2 of the Clock after noon then to meet at the meeting House the moderator adjourned said Meeting accordingly

Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield held by Adjournment from March the 18th 1777 to April ye first 1777 the town being meat together Capt. Stephen Perkins moderator

1ly Messrs. Nehemiah Herrick Daniel Bixby & Zaccheus Gould were Chosen Selectmen in the room of Capt. Stephen Perkins, Thomas Mower & Samuel Smith who declined the Service

2ly Voted that the Selectmen shall be Assessors the year Insuing

3ly Jacob Towne was Chosen Constable in the room of Mr. Joseph Cummings who Excused himself from said Service Voted

4ly Mr. Simon Gould was Chosen Warden in the room of Nathan Hood who at his desire the town Excused from Said Service Voted

5ly The town allowed to Thomas Cummings one of ye Surveyors of highways the Sum of five Shillings and one penny it being for 38 feet of Plank 5/1

6ly The Town allowed to Jacob Kimball the Sum of fourteen Shillings and nine pence it being an Abatement of Thomas Woods rates in his list 0: 14: 9

David Balch Jr Nath^l Low, Isaac Averel, Moses Wildes John Gould Jr Daniel Bixby Joseph Cummings Jr, Joseph Andrews, Capt John Bordman, Nathan Wildes, David Perkins, John Bradstreet, Amos Wildes, Nathan Wildes, Thos Emerson, Jacob Averel Jr. Capt. Thos. Baker, Jacob Towne, and Simon Gould ware all Sworn to the faithfull discharge of their Severall offices by the Town Clerke

To Jacob Towne one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the Inhabitants in the North ward quallified for voteing in Town meetings to Convean and meat Together at the Meeting house on Monday the Twenty first day of April instant at one of the Clock after noon Agreeable to a request of Capt Nath^l. Averel and Others

1ly To see what way ye town will Agree to raise the money that was Voted as a bounty to Such men as Shall Enlist for three years or dureing the war or to Act upon any other Method that the town Shall think proper, and also to see what the town will do in respect to the report of the Committee for the time Back, whether they will raise the mony or give Credit

2ly To see if the town will make Choice of David Perkins and others according to resolve of Congress to Serve as a Comtee. of Corispondence Inspection & Safety with others already Chosen

3ly To see if the Town will Chose any town officers that have refused or may refuse

Hereof faile not, and make return of your doings at time and place to One or More of the Selectmen

Topsfield April 15th: 1777

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke jr	
Daniel Bixby	

In Obediance to the within Warrant I have warned the Inhabitants of the North ward quallified for voting to appear at the Meeting House on the Said day according to warrant

Topsfield April 16: 1777

Jacob Towne Constable

The Inhabitance of the South ward in sd town was warned by a like warrant and a Similer returne thereof made by David Balch Jr Constable Attest Saml Smith Town Clerke

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield April 21st : 1777

1ly Capt. Stephen Perkins was Choose moderator Voted

2ly David Towne Junr was Chosen to Serve as one of a Committee of Corispondence Inspection and Safety in the room of Thomas Cummings who refused to Serve

Essex ss. To Jacob Town one of the Constables of the town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitance of the Town of Topsfield that are quallified for voting in the North ward in Said town, To Convean and meet Together at the Meeting House in Said Town on Monday the Nineteenth day of May Instant at three of the Clock after noon

1ly To see if the Town will Chouse a man or men to Represent them in the greate and general Court or Assembly Appointed to be held & Kept for the government Service at the State House in Boston in the County of Suffolk on Wednesday the twenty Eighth day of May Instant According to precept

2ly To see if the Town will Agree to Stand by the Regulating act made by this State to prevent monopoly and opression, and also wheather the town would have those persons appointed by the Act to Affix the prise of things not Ennumerated in Said Act, or do any thing About it, or not

3ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not, and make Return to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield May 9th 1777

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Peabody	
Nehemiah Herrick	
Israel Clarke Jun	
Daniel Bixby	

In obedience to the within warrant I have warned the Inhabitants of the north ward according to warrant

Dated Topsfield May ye 19th 1777

Jacob Towne Constable

The Inhabitants of the South ward in said town was warned by a Like warrant, and a Similar Returne made by David Balch Junr Constable

Attest Saml. Smith Town Clerke

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield May 19th: 1777

1ly Capt Samuel Smith was Chosen to Represent Said Town at the greate and General Court the Year Insuing

There being other business to be done at the above meeting

2ly Capt. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Moderator Voted

3ly The town not being favored with the Additional [Act] relating to Monopoly and Oppression in this State, the Town Agreed to pass over ye Second Article in the warrant for the present and untill they Shall be favoured with it Voted

4ly The town took under Consideration that part of the Resolve of ye General Court recommended to ye Several towns in this State to Instruct their representatives in one body with ye Council to forme a Constitution of government for this State of Massachusetts Bay and after Som debate it was put to vote to see if the town would Instruct their Representative for ye purpose aforesaid and it passed in the Negative, and that for the following reasons viz/ this Apprehends that it is not of absolute Necessity to forme a Constitution of government this present year, as it is highly Probable that ye Court will have much business to do this year that will be of absolute necessity for ye defence and Support of this State, and the ancient Laws and usages of this State are in full force and practise, and as there is So many Valuable men that are and will be in the army and Cannot meturely deliberate on Such a momentus affair, this town apprehends that it is not best to forme a Constitution of Government for this State for the future this present year

5ly the town Allowed to Thomas Perkins Junr. Surveyor of highways the Sum of Twenty two Shillings it being for one hundred feet of white oake plank to mend ye River Bridge

Voted £1: 2: 0

and also the Sum of Six Shillings for a Plowshare that was Broke at mending highways

Voted £0: 6: 0

Essex: ss: To Jacob Towne one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitanice in the North ward in said town that are quallified for voteing in town as the Law directs To Convean and Meet Together at the Meeting House in said town on Monday the Seventh day of July next at three of the Clock after noon

1ly To see if the Town will Bring in their votes for a County Register of Deeds

2ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield June 30th 1777

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Jr	
Daniel Bixby	

a proper return was made by Jacob Towne Constable of his warning ye Inhabitants of ye North ward, & also by David Balch Constable, warning ye South ward by a Similer warrant

Saml Smith T: Clerk

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield July the 7th 1777

1ly Mr Solomon Dodge was Chosen Moderater Voted

2ly the Town gave in their votes for a County Register

3ly Voted that this meeting be dissolved

Essex : ss: To Jacob Towne one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and other Inhabitants Quallified by Law for voting in Town Meetings in the north ward to Convean and meet Together at the Meeting House in said town on the twenty fourth day of July Instant at three of ye Clock after noon

1ly To See if the town will Erect a House for a pest House in Som proper place in said Town, or to Act upon any Method the Town Shall think proper

2ly To see if the town will agreeable to the request of Thomas Perkins Junr. and others, Give the present Comtee. for Supplying the town with a Gospel minister Instructions or Chuse another Comtee. and give them Instructions

Hereof faile not and make return of this warrant with your doings to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above Mentioned

Dated Topsfield July 15th : 1777

Zachs Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Nehemiah Herrick	
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Jr.	
Daniel Bixby	

The Inhabitance of the South ward in said town was warned by a like Warrant and a Similer return was Made by David Balch Junr a Constable of said town

Attest Saml. Smith Town Cler

Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield July 24th : 1777

1ly Mr. Stephen Foster was Chosen moderater Voted

2ly it was put to vote to see if the town would Erect a pest House in Som Proper place in said town, and it passed in the negative

Then the town voted that said meeting Should be Dissolved which was done by the Moderater accordingly

On the 29 of June 1777 Capt Nehemiah Herrick, & Mr Zaccheus Gould was Sworn to the faithfull discharg of the Office of Haywards and fence Viewers of the Stickey meadow Common fields so Calld. Lying part in Topsfield, part in Boxford & part in Middleton, by the Towne Clerk of Topsfield

Test Saml Smith Town Cler

Essex ss To Jacob Towne one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are Quallified by law for voteing in Town meetings to Convean and meet Together att the Meeting in said Town on Thursday the fourth day of September next at three a Clock in the after noon

1ly To see if the town will agree by their vote to Concur with the vote of the Church in this Town in giveing Mr Samuel Whiteman an Invitation to Settle in the work of the Gospel Ministry amongst us in this town or act upon any matter or thing that the town shall think proper in respect to Settling a gospel minister

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place mentioned

Dated Topsfield August 19th : 1777

Zaccheus Gould }
John Peabody }
Israel Clark Jr }
Daniel Bixby }

Pursuant to this warrant I have warned the Inhabitants of the within ward to Appear at the meeting house on said day by posting it on the Meeting house on the fast day Topsfield September 5th : 1777

Jacob Towne Constable

The Inhabitants of the South ward was warned by a Like warrant and a Similer return made by David Balch Junr. Constable

Attest Saml Smith Town Clark

Att a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield September 4th : 1777

1ly Capt. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Moderater Voted

2ly It was put to vote to See if the town would Concur with the Church in giving Mr Samuel Whitman an Invitation to Settle in the work of the gospel Ministry among us in this Town And it Passed in the Negative

Essex ss: To Jacob Towne, one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby required fourthwith to warne all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are qualified by Law for voting in Town meetings to Convean and meet Together at the meeting House in said town on Thursday the Twenty fifth day of September Instant at three o'Clock after noon

1ly To see if how much money the town will raise to defray the necessary Charge ariseing in Said town for the present year

2ly To see if the Town will Chouse a new Committee to Supply the Town with a Suitable person to preach the gospel, or to act upon any thing the Town shall think proper respecting Supplying the desk

3ly To see if the town will accept of the Alteration in the Jury Boxes or act any thing the town shall think proper

4ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of your doings and this Warrant to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield September 16th: 1777

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Peabody	
Nehemiah Herrick	
Israel Clarke Jr	
Daniel Bixby	

In Obedience to the within written warrant I have warned the Inhabitants of the North ward according to Warrant

Dated Topsfield Sept 25th: 1777

Jacob Towne Constable

The Inhabitants of the South ward was warned by a like warrant and a Similler return being made by David Balch Jr. one of the Constables of Topsfield Attest Saml Smith Town Cler

Att a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield September 25th: 1777

1ly Deacon John Gould was Chosen moderater Voted

2ly Israel Clarke Junr was Chosen and Sworn Clerk of said Meeting Voted

3ly It was put to vote to see if the town would Adjourn said

Meeting to monday next at three of the Clock after noon, and it passed in the affirmative the moderater Adjourned said Meeting a Cordingly

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield held by Adjournment from September 25th: 1777 to September 29th 1777 then meat Deacon John Gould moderater

1ly It was put to vote to see if the town would agree to Raise the Sum of Two Hundred pounds to defray the Nessessary Charge arising within the Same the Year Insuing and it passed in the affirmative Voted

2ly it was put to vote to see if the Town would Choose a new Comtee. to Supply the town with a Suitable person to preach the Gospel, and it passed in the Negative

3ly The town Choose Samuel Smith and Majr Joseph Gould to Serve on Said Comtee in the room of Messrs. Solomon Dodge and Amos Perkins who refused to Serve on said Comtee. any Longer

4ly The Town accepted of the alteration by a new model made by the Selectmen of Jurors in this town 26 being put into the Superiour Box, and 70 into the Inferior Box

5ly The Town Allowed to Thomas Porter for Boarding Sundry person that have preached the gospel in the Town from September 15th 1776 to September 15th 1777 and for Keeping their Horses £23: 2: 0

Essex ss: To Jacob Town one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and other Inhabitants of sd town that are quallified for voting in South ward in said Town, to Convene and meet Together at the Meeting House in said town on Monday the Twenty fourth day of November Instant at one of the Clock in the after noon

1ly To see what the Town will do with arms and Other warlike Stores which was ordered by this State for this town which the Selectmen have now in their hands

2ly To see if the Town would have Deacon Gould deliver out any of the molasses to the poor of Other towns Resident in this town which was given to the poor of this town by Capt John Derby

3ly To Chuse by Ballot Som person who is firmly attatched to the American Cause, according to an Act of the General Court

4ly for the Town to bring their Bills of their rateable estate according to the Tax Bill, or act upon any method the Town shall think proper respecting said Bills

Hereof fail not and make return of this war'nt with your doings to One or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentnd.

Israel Clarke Jr	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Nehe ^h Herrick	
Daniel Bixby	

In obedience to this warrant I have warned the Inhabitants of the north ward to Appear at time and place within mentioned Topsfield November 21th: 1777

Jacob Towne Constable of Topsfield

The Inhabitants of the South ward was warned by a like Warrant & a Similler return made by David Balch Junr Constable of Topsfield
Attest Saml. Smith Town Cler

Att a legall Town meeting in Topsfield November 24th: 1777
1ly Deacon John Gould was Chosen Moderator

2ly It was put to vote to see if the town would adjourn said meeting to Monday the first day of December to one of ye Clock after noon and it passed in the affirmative, the moderater Adjourned said Meeting to time and place accordingly

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield held by adjournment from November 24th: 1777 to December ye 1th: 1777 then meat the Town Clerk being absent deacon Gould moderater

1ly Israel Clarke Junr. was Chosen and Sworn Clerke of said Meeting It was then agreed to adjourn said meeting to the Eighth day of December Instent, the moderater adjourned said meeting to time & place accordingly

Att a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield held by Adjournment from Decem^r the 1th: 1777 to December 8th: 1777 then meat Deacon John Gould Moderator

1ly It was put vote to see if the Town would Sell the guns and gun Locks that are now in the hands of the Selectmen to Such person or persons that Shall want them in this town for their owne use and it passed in the affirmative

2ly the Town voted that Capt. Nehemiah Herrick and Messrs. Daniel Bixby, and David Balch Junr. be a Comtee. to Sell the above guns and gun Locks to Such persons that belongs to this Town as they Shall Judge most for the Towns Advantage the town also voted that Said Committee Shall Sell Eighty pound of the Lead that is also in ye Selectmens hands Said Comtee to be accountable to the town for what they Sell

3ly the town voted that the remainder of the Lead and the

flints that are also in the Selectmens hands shall be put into the town Stock

4ly The Town voted that the Assessors Should go to each persons house in Said town And Take a valuation of each persons estate in order to Tax the Inhabitants this present year

Essex ss: To Jacob Towne one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required fourthwith to warne all the freeholders and Other Inhabitanace in ye North ward Quallified by Law for voting in Town meetings, to Convean and meat at the Meeting House in said Town on Monday the thirteenth of January Instant at one of the Clock after noon

1ly To see if the Town will Instruct there Representative Respecting the Articles of Confederation and perpetual union of the united States of America

2ly To see if the town will raise their proportion of the Publick debt or any part of it as the town shall think fit, agreeable to an Act of the general Court of this State or act upon any method the town Shall think proper respecting raiseing said money

3ly To allow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not, and make return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place

Dated Topsfield Jnuary ye 7th: 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
John Peabody	
Israel Clarke Junr	
Daniel Bixby	

The Inhabitants of the South ward in Said town was warned by a Like warrant, and a Similler return being made thereof, by David Balch Junr. one of the Constables of Said Topsfield.

Attest Saml Smith T. Cler

Att a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield January 19th 1778

1ly Capt. Stephn Perkins was Chosen Moderator Voted

2ly After reading the Several Articles of Confederation of the united States of America It was put to vote to see if the town would Instruct their Representative to Act in General Court on the Several articles of Confederation as he Shall think best and it passed in the affirmative

3ly It was put to vote to see if they would agree to raise their proportion of the Publick debt or any part thereof, and it passed in the Negative

Essex ss To David Balch Junr one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are Hereby Required in the Name of the Government and people of the State of the Massachusetts Bay Fourth with to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the South Ward in Said Town Qualified by Law for Voting in Town Meeting to Convene and meet together at the meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the third Day of March next at nine Clock in the morning

1ly To Chouse Selectmen Constables Town Clerke and all Other Town officers as the Law Directs

2ly To See if the Town will Chouse a Committee of Corespondance Inspection and Safty

3ly To Chouse a Suitable person to take Recognizence of debts and make Record of the Same, and proseed in said business as the Law Directs

4ly To See if the Town will Chouse a Committee to Supply the Town with a grammar School master as the Law Directs

5ly To See if the Town will accept with the Selectmens Reasoning with the Town Treasurer

6ly To See how much money the Town will agree to raise to Defray the Charges of mending the Highways and Other Necessary Charges arising in Said Town the year Insuing

7ly To See how much money the Town will agree to appropriate to be paid in Labour in mending the Highways, or to act upon any method the Town Shall think proper respecting the Highways

8ly To See if the Town will agree to Let Swine go at large the year insuing provided they are yoaked and ringed as the Law directs

9ly To See if the Town will Chouse a man or men to let the personage to Such person as will give most for it, for the Towns use the year Insuing

10ly To See if the Town will Chouse a Committee to take Care that the fish ways are kept open threw the mill dams in Said Town as the Law Directs the year Insuing

11ly To See if the Town will agree to the Same rules and methods relating to the Catching alewives in Said brooks, in Said Town that they agreed to last year

12ly To allow bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrent to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place before mentioned and of your Doings thereon.

Dated Topsfield February 25th 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Israel Clarke Jur	
John Peabody	
Daniel Bixby	

Pursuent to the within Warrant I have warned all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the South ward Qualified for voting to appear at time and place within mentioned.

Topsfield February 26th. Day 1778

David Balch Junr Constable of Topsfield

The Inhabitants Quallified for voting in the North ward ware Notified by a Like warrent and a Similer return made by

Jacob Towne Constable of Topsfield

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March 3d. 1778

1. Deacon John Gould was Chosen moderater Voted
2. Stephen Perkins was Chosen Town Clerk, & Sworn the same Day by ye Selectmen
3. Major Joseph Gould Messrs. Joseph Cummings Thomas Porter Jacob Kimball Isaac Averell were Chosen Selectmen
4. Messrs. John Lamson John Rea was Chosen Constables & paid their fines
5. Ephraim Town was Chosen Constable in the room of John Rea who paid his fine
6. Mr. Jeremiah Averell was Chosen Town Treasurer

The Town voted to adjourn Said meeting to Monday the Ninth Day of March Instent at one of the Clock after noon then to meet at the Meeting house. the moderater adjourn^d. Said meeting accordingly

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield held by Adjournment from March 3d Instent, to March 9th. Instent, the Town being met Decn. Jno. Gould moderater

1 Messrs. Zaccheus Gould Daniel Bixby was Chosen Selectmen in the room of Messrs. Thomas Porter & Jacob Kimball who refused to serve

2 Nathaniel Woodman John Batcheller was Chosen Wardens Voted

3 Jacob Kimball Eliezer Lake Samuel Perkins was Chosen Tythingmen Voted

4 Amos Perkins Amos Wildes Eliezer Lake John Balch was Chosen Surveyors of High-ways Voted

5 Thomas Porter Daniel Clarke Capt. John Baker was Chosen Fence vewers

6 David Perkins was Chosen Sealer of Lether

7 John Bradstreet was Chosen Deer rief

8 John Peabody Jacob Averell Junr Jacob Peabody was Chosen Hog rives

9 Daniel Hood was Chosen Surveyor of Claboards and Shingle

10 Abraham Hobbs Jacob Kimball was Chosen Over Seers of the poor

11 Thomas Cummings Thomas Porter Thomas Mower was Chosen a Committee to Supply the Town with a Schoolmaster

12 Oliver Perkins was Chosen Constable in the room of John Lamson who paid his fine

13 Daniel Clarke was Chosen Clarke of the market

14 David Towne Junr Thomas Cummings Robert Perkins David Perkins Eliezer Lake was Chosen a Committee of Corespodence inspection and Safty

15 Samuel Smith Esqr. was Chosen to take Recognize of Debts &c as the Law Directs

16 The Town accepted of the Selectmens Reckoning with the Town Treasurer and there then was in Said Treasurers hands not ordered out ———

17 The Town voted to Raise two Hundred pounds to Defray the Charge of mending the High-ways and Other necessary Charges in Said Town

18 The Town voted to appropriate one Hundred and Twenty pounds of the above said two hundred pounds to be paid in Labour at mending the High-ways this present year

19 The Town voted to alow to Each man with Suitable materials Six Shillings per. Day for Labour at mending the High-ways, and Six Shillings pr. Day for one pair of oxen and Cart

20 The Town voted that Swine may go at large the year insuing provided they are yoked and Ringed as the Law Directs

21 Simon Gould Thomas Porter Solomon Dodge was Chosen a Committee to Let out the personage the year insuing for the Towns use

22 Capt. John Bordman Stephen Foster Junr. John Batcheller was Chosen a Committee to take Care that the fish ways thro' the mill Dams are kept open for the fish to pass this year as the Law Directs

23 The Town voted that the Same Rules & methods Should be Observed Respecting the Catching of fish in the Brooks in Said Town as was agreed to in the year 1776

24 The Town voted that the Selectmen Shall be Assessors the year Insuing

25 The town allowed to Peletiah Cummings, Isaac Averell & David Town Junr. School Committee Fifty three pounds two Shillings & Eight pence to pay Messrs. Isaac Bradish & Nathl. Dodge for keeping School and pay for their Board, and fire wood for the School

26 The Town allowd. to Amos Wildes a former Constable 0 5 5 as an abatement of Simon Bradstreets tax in his List.

The Town allowd. to Joseph Cummings Surveyor for three quarters of a hundred of white pine Plank 2 1/2 inch

thick	0 15 0
and for a Stick of timber for a Bridge	0 10 0

27 The Town allowd. to Moses Wildes Surveyor for a Stick of Timber for a String peace for the river Bridge 0 5 4

28 The Town allowd. to the Selectmen for going about to take the Bills of Estates in order to make the assessment for 1777 as followeth viz

To Zaccheus Gould	1 4 0
to John Peabody	1 16 0
to Capt. Nehemiah Herrick	0 12 0
to Daniel Bixby	1 16 0
to Israel Clarke	1 16 0
	<hr/>
	7 4 0

The town allowed. to Daniel Bixby for paper used in the towns Service 0 7 0

the Town allowd. to Israel Clarke for paper used in the towns Service 0 19 6

Majr. Joseph Gould, Joseph Cummings, Isaac Averell, Zaccheus Gould, & Daniel Bixby Sworn to the faithful Discharge of ye office of assessors Jeremiah Averell, Nathaniel Woodman, John Batcheller, Jacob Kimball, Eliezer Lake, Samuel Perkins, Amos Perkins, Amos Wildes, John Balch, Thomas Porter, Danl. Clarke, Capt. John Baker, John Bradstreet, John Peabody, Jacob Peabody, Daniel Hood, Ephraim Towne, David Perkins, Ephraim Dorman, John Balch

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield March 26th. 1778 Assembled by David Balch Junr. Constable of Said Town John Rea was Chosen to Serve on the grand Jury the year insuing and Samuel Perkins & Isaac Hobbs was drawn out of the Box to Serve on the pettit jury at the next Inferiour Court to be holden at Ipswich this Instant march

Essex ss To Jacob Towne one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are Required in the Name of the

Goverment and People of the State of Massachusetts Bay Fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the North Ward in Said Town Qualified by law to vote in Town meeting to Convene and meet together at the Meeting House in Said Town on Thursday the Twenty Sixth Day of March Instant at three of the Clock after noon

1ly To Choose a man to Serve as a Constable for the North ward in sd town in the room of Mr. Oliver Perkins

2ly For the Town to act upon any method they shall think proper respecting a Constable in Said Ward

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrent with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Dated in Topsfield March 17th: 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Cummings Jur	
Joseph Gould	
Isaac Averell	
Daniel Bixby	

In Obedence to this Warrent I have warned the Inhabitants of the North ward to appear at the Meeting House according to Warrent Topsfield March the 20 A D 1778

Jacob Towne Constable of Topsfield

The Inhabitants Quallified for voting in the South ward ware notified by a Like Warrent and a Similer return made by

David Balch Junr. Constable of Topsfield

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Towne of Topsfield the 26th. Day of March 1778

1ly Deacon John Gould was Chosen moderator of said meeting

2ly Ephraim Wildes was Chosen Constable in the room of Oliver Perkins who paid his fine

3ly The Town Voted to Adjourn this meeting to Thursday the Second Day of April next at three of the Clock after noon then to meet at the Meeting House the moderator adjourned. said Meeting accordingly

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield held by adjournment from March 26th. 1778 to April 2d. 1778 the Town being met Deacon John Gould Moderator

Ephraim Dorman was Chosen Constable in the room of Ephraim Wildes who paid his fine

The Town voted to adjourn this meeting to Wednesday the Eighth Day of April Instant to four O' the Clock after noon then to meet at the Meeting House the moderator Adjourned said meeting accordingly

At a Legal Town meeting in Topsfield held by adjournment from April Second Day of April 1778 to April Eighth 1778 the town being met Deacon John Gould moderator

The Town Voted that this [meeting] be Desolved the moderator Desolved the meeting accordingly

We the Subscribers met this 16th. Day of April A D 1778 & Perambulated the Line and renewed the bounds between the Towns of Topsfield and Danvers in the following manner /Viz/ Begining at a Stake and Stones near Wenham Causey the North-erly Bounds between Wenham and Danvers, thence Running westerly Eight pole to a Elm tree marked D D & T, thence running Norwesterly about twenty two pole to a Stake and Stones by the edge of a Swamp near Theophilus Fisks Barn, thence running westerly to a black oak Stump with Stones about it in an orchard belonging to John Rea from thence to a heap of Stones at the bend of a wall where a run or Slow Emtes it Self out of John Reas Land into the land of Elias Endicot, thence to a heap of Stones on Land Belonging to the Heirs of Timothy Lyndall Esq Decesd: near Nicholss Brook, thence on the Same Course to Said Brook near the remains of an old Saw mill Commonly Calld. Porters Saw mill

John Putnam	} Committee	Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen	
Phinehas Putnam		appointed by		Isaac Averell
Tarrant Putnam		the Selectmen		Daniel Bixby
		of Danvers		

Essex ss To Ephraim Towne Constable of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are Hereby Required in the Name of the Goverment and People of the State of Massachusetts Bay fourth with to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants in Said Town from Twenty one years old and upwards to Conveen and meet together at the Meeting-House in Said Town on Tuesday the Twenty eighth Day of April Instant at four O' Clock after noon

1ly For the Towns approbation or Disapprobation respecting a Constitution and form of Goverment for the State of Massachusetts Bay

2ly For the Town to act upon any method they shall think proper respecting said form of Goverment

3ly For the Town to give the Committee instructions respecting their Supplying the pulpit

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrent with your doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield April 20th. 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Cummings	
Joseph Gould	
Isaac Averell	
Daniel Bixby	

In Obedience to the within written Warrent I have warned the Inhabitants of the Town by posting this warrent on the Meeting-House on fast Day April 22d. 1778

Topsfield April 28th. 1778

Ephraim Towne Constable of Topsfield

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Inhabitants of Topsfield the Twenty Eighth Day of April A D 1778

1ly Deacon John Gould was Chosen moderator

2ly The Town Voted that the Committee Chosen to Supply the Town with a Suitable person to preach the Gospel be instructed to Employ Mr Asa Burton

3ly The Town Voted to adjourn this meeting to Tuesday the 19th Day of May next to one of the Clock after noon

At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield held by adjournment from April 28 1778 to May 19th. 1778 the Town being met Deacon John Gould moderator

The Town taking into Consideration a Constitution and form of Government for the State of Massachusetts Bay, agreed upon by the Convention of Said State, February 28th: 1778, to be laid before the Several Towns and plantations in Said State for their approbation or Disapprobation

The question being put Whether the Town approve of said Constitution and form of Government, it appeared by a Division that their was, four, for said Constitution and form of Government and Thirty three against it

Essex To Ephraim Dorman one of the Constables of Topsfield Greeting In the Name of the Government and People of the State of Massachusetts Bay, You are required fourth with to Warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the North Ward in Said Town that are qualified by Law for Voting in

Town meetings, to Conveen and meet at the Meeting-House in said Town on Tuesday the Ninteenth Day of May instent at two o Clock in the afternoon

1ly To Choose a man or men to Represent the Town at the Great and General Court the Ensuing year according to precept

2ly To See if the Town will raise a Sum of money to Defray the Charges of a number of articles of Cloathing Lately procured for the Contenental Soldiers, or act upon any other meethod the Town shall think proper respecting raising Said money

3ly To alow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrent and your Doing thereon to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield May 5th. 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Cummings Jur.	
Joseph Gould	
Isaac Averell	
Daniel Bixby	

Pursuent to within warrent I have warned all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants that are qualified for voting, in the North ward in sd. Town to Conveen together at time and place within mentioned

Topsfield May 19th: 1778 Ephraim Dorman Constable

The Inhabitants qualified for voting in the South ward ware Notified by a Like warrent, and a Semiler return made by Ephraim Town Constable

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield the Ninteenth Day of May 1778

1ly Deacon John Gould was Chosen to represent the Town at the Great and General Court the year Ensuing

There being other business to be done at the above meeting

2ly Deacon John Gould was Chosen moderator

3ly The Town Voted that the Sum of one Hundred and Twenty pounds be assessed on the polls and Estates in Said Town to Defray the Charges of Cloathing provided for the Soldiers in the Continental army and Transporting them to Andover

4ly The Town voted to alow to Major Joseph Gould the Intrest money he paid to Jacob Averell Junr. being the Sum of —

Essex To Ephraim Dorman one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In the Name of the Goverment and people of the State of Massachusetts Bay, You are required fourth with to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the North ward in Said Town that are qualified by Law for voting in Town meetings to Conveene and meet at the Meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday after noon

To See if the Town will agree to Chouse a Committee to procure the Six men that are now wanted to reinforce the Continantal army on the best terms they Can procure them, on the Towns Cost, in order to make a Saving of the thirty pounds for each man they Shall So procure by the time Set by the General Court in their resolve for that purpos, or for the Town to act & agree on any other method in order to procure Said men the Town Shall Judg most proper, and Save the thirty pounds for each man as afore said

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrent and your Doings there on to one or more of the Select men at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield May ye 14th : 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Gould	
Isaac Averell	
Daniel Bixby	

Topsfield May 17th : 1778

Pursuent to the within warrent I have warned all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants that are qualified for voting in the north ward in Said Town to Conveen together at time and place within mentioned

Ephraim Dorman Constable

The Inhabitants of the South ward qualified for voting were Notified by a Like warrent, and a Semiler return made by
Ephraim Town Constable of Topsfield

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield the Nineteenth Day of May 1778

1ly Samuel Smith Esqr. was Chosen moderator for sd. meeting

2ly The Town agreed and voted to Chouse a Committee to procure six men to serve in the Continental army for nine months upon the best terms they Can procure them on the Towns Cost

3ly Mr. Benja. Gould Capt. Thomas Cummings & Capt. Nehemiah Herrick was Chosen a Committee to procure Six men on the best terms they Can upon the Towns Cost and Charge to Serve in the Continental army nine months

Essex ss To Mr. Ephraim Dorman one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are Hereby Required in the Name of the Government and People of the State of Massachusetts Bay Fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the North ward in Said Town qualified by law for voting in Town meetings to Conveen and meet together at the Meeting-House in Said Town on Tuesday the 22d. day of September Instent at two of the Clock in the afternoon

1ly To See how much money the Town will agree to raise to Defray the necessary Charges arisen or arising in Said Town

2ly To See if the Town will agree for the Selectmen to Draw out of the Town Treasury the fourteen pounds Bounty that is alowed for Each Soldier which the Selectmen were impowered to assess on the Inhabitants of Said Town agreeable to an act of the General Court Dated June 10th. 1778

3ly To alow Bills of Charge

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrent with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned.

Dated Topsfield September 8 AD 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Cummings Junr	
Joseph Gould	
Isaac Averell	
Daniel Bixby	

Pursuent to the within Warrent I have Warned all the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants that are Qualified for Voting in the north ward in said Town to Convene together at time and place within mentioned

Topsfield September 15th 1778

Ephraim Dorman Constable of Topsfield

The South Ward in Said Town was Warned by a like Warrent as above, and the following return made /Viz/

In Obedence to the within Written Warrent I have warned the Inhabitants of the South ward by posting this Warrent on the meeting House on Lecture Day September the ninth Day September 9th. 1778 Ephraim Towne Constable of Topsfield

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield on the 22d. day of September 1778

1ly Samuel Smith Esq was Chosen moderator for Said meeting

2ly The Town Voted that the Sum of Fifteen Hundred and thirty pounds shall be assessed upon polls and estates in the

Town to Defray the Necessary Charges arising in Said Town the present year

3ly The Town Voted that the Selectmen shall Draw out of the Town Treasury the Sum of Fourteen pounds paid to each Soldier as a Bounty, which Shall be raised in this Town agreeable to an act of the General Court Dated June 10th. 1778

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 22d. Day of September 1778 Assembled by Ephraim Towne Constable of Said Towne Messrs. Thomas Porter & Jacob Kimball was Chosen by Drawing their names out of the Box of Jurours to Serve on the petit Jury at the Court of General Sessions of the peace, and Inferiour Court to be holden at Newburyport on the last Tuesday of Sept. Instant

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 22d. Day of September 1778 Assembled by Ephraim Dorman Constable of Said Town Mr. John Peabody was Chosen to Serve on the Grand Jury, and Israel Clarke Junr. was Drawn out of the box to Serve on the petit Jury at the Superiour Court to be holden at Salem on the first Tuesday of November next Insuing

Essex ss. To Ephraim Towne one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are Hereby Required in the Name of the Government and people of the State of Massachusetts Bay forthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the South ward in Said Town Qualified by Law to vote in Town meeting to Convene and meet together at the Meeting-House in Said Town on Tuesday the 29th Day of September Instant at three of the Clock after noon

To See if the Town will agree to Choose a man to Represent the Town at the Great and General Court in the room of Deacon John Gould Decesd. according to precept

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrent with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned.

Dated Topsfield September 22d. 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Cummings Junr	
Joseph Gould	
Isaac Averell	
Daniel Bixby	

Pursuent to this within written warrent I have warned the South ward according to Warrent

Topsfield September 29th. 1778

Ephraim Towne Constable of Topsfield

The North ward was Warned by a like Warrent and a return made in the folowing words (Viz)

Pursuent to the within Warrent I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are qualified for voting in the north ward in Said Towne to Convene together at time and place within mentioned

Topsfield September the 26: 1778

Ephraim Dorman Constable of Topsfield

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield the 29th. day of September 1778

The Town Carred in their votes four times in order to Chose a man to represent the Town at the Great and General Court this present year in the room of Deacon John Gould Deces^d. but Could not make a Choise

Essex ss. To Ephraim Dorman one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are Hereby Required in the Name of the Government and people of the State of Massachusetts Bay fourthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the north ward in Said Town that are qualified by Law to vote in Town meeting to Convene and meet together at the Meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the 27th. Day of October Instent at one of the Clock in the after noon

To See if the Town will grant the Request of Deacon George Bixby and Others, and Chose Sum person to Represent the Town in the Great and General Court in the room of Deacon John Gould Deces^d. according to precept

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrent with your Doings thereon to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield the 15 day of October A D 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Gould	
Isaac Averell	
Daniel Bixby	

Pursuent to the within Warrent I have warned all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants qualified for voting in the North

ward in Said Town to Convene together at time and place with-
in mentioned Ephraim Dorman Constable of Topsfield

The South ward was warned by a like Warrent and a return
made in the following words /Viz/

Pursuent to this Warrent I have Warned the South ward ac-
cording to Warrent

Topsfield October the 17: 1778

Ephraim Towne Constable of Topsfield

At a Legal Meeting of the Freeholders ond Other Inhabitants
of Topsfield on the 27th. day of October 1778

A motion being made and Seconded the question was put to
See if the Town would Choose a man to represent them in the
Great and General Court this present year in the room of Deacon
John Gould Decesd. and it passed in the negative

Essex ss. To Ephraim Towne one of the Constables of the
Town of Topsfield Greeting You are Hereby Required in the
Name of the Goverment and people of the State of Massachu-
setts Bay forthwith to warn all the freeholders and Other In-
habitants in the South ward in Said Town qualified by law to
Vote in Town Meeting to Convene and meet together at the
Meeting House in Said Town on Thursday the 22d. Day of Oc-
tober Instant at one of the Clock after noon

1ly To See if the Town will Concur with the Church in this
place in giving Mr. Matthew Scribner an Invitation to Settle in
the worke of the ministry amongst us

2ly For the Town to agree upon what Settlement and Sallery
they will give Mr. Scribner

3ly For the Town to act any thing they Shall think proper
respecting said Minister

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrent with your
Doing thereon to one or more of the Selectmen at time and
place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield October 15th. 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Gould	
Isaac Averell	
Daniel Bixby	

Pursuent to this Warrent I have Warned the South ward
according to Warrent

Topsfield October the 17th. 1778

Ephraim Towne Constable of Topsfield

The North ward was Warned by a Like Warrent and a return made in the following words /Viz/ Pursuent to the within Warrent I have warned all the freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are qualified for Voting in the North ward in Said Town to Convene together at time and place within mentioned

Topsfield October the 17: 1778

Ephraim Dorman Constable of Topsfield

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 22d day of October 1778

1ly Samuel Smith Esq was Chosen Moderator for Said meeting

2ly The question being put to See whether the Town will Concur the vote of the Church in this Town of the fifteenth day of October 1778 for giving Mr. Matthew Scribner a Call to Settle in the work of the ministry in this Town, and it past in the affirmative, there was 50 voted in the affirmative, and 34 in the Negative

3ly Samuel Smith Esq, Messrs. Israel Clarke Junr., Moses Perkins, Abraham Hobbs, and Major Joseph Gould was Chosen a Committee to draw up what they think is proper for the Town to give Mr. Matthew Scribner, as Settlement and Sallery, and make report to the Town at the adjournment of this meeting

4ly The Town voted to Adjourn this meeting to Thursday the 5th. day of November next at one of the Clock after noon to meet at the Meeting-House, the moderator adjourned. Said Meeting accordingly

At a Legal Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield held by adjournment from the 22d. day of October 1778 to the fifth day of November 1778 The Town being mett Samuel Smith Esq. moderator

A motion being made and Seconded to See if the Town Would Reconsider their Vote of the Twenty Second of October last for Concurring with the vote of the Church in this Town of the fifteenth of October Last for giving Mr. Matthew Scribner a Call to Settle in the work of the ministry in this Town: The Question being put it past in the negative there was 45 against the motion and 45 for it

Essex ss To Ephraim Dorman one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting In the Name of the Goverment and people of the State of Massachusetts Bay You are Required fourthwith to warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the North ward in Said Town that are qualified by Law for

Voting in Town meeting to Convene and meet at the Meeting House in Said Town on Thursday the Nineteenth Day of November Instant at one of the Clock in the after noon

To See if the Town will agree upon a Settlement and Sallery to give Mr. Matthew Scribner to Encourage him to Settle and to Carry on the work of the ministry in this Town agreeable to the vote of both the Church and Town either according to what may be reported by the Committee Chosen for that purpose or such other way as the Town may Judge proper

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrent with your Doings there on to one or more of the Select men at time and place above mentioned

Dated Topsfield November 6th: 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Gould	
Isaac Averell	

Pursuent to the within Warrent I have warned all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are qualified for voting in the North ward in Said Town to Convene together at time and place within mentioned

Topsfield November 12th. 1778

Ephraim Dorman Constable of Topsfield

The South ward was warned by a Like Warrent and a return made in the following words /Viz/

Pursuent to this within written Warrent I have warned the South ward in Said Town according to warrent.

Topsfield November 19th: 1778

Ephraim Towne Constable of Topsfield

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 19th. day of November 1778

Mr. Eliezer Lake was Chosen Moderator for said meeting

Essex ss To Ephraim Dorman one of the Constables of the Town of Topsfield Greeting You are hereby Required in the Name of the Goverment and people of the State of Massachusetts Bay Fourthwith warn all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants in the North ward in Said Town Qualified by Law to vote in Town meetings to Convene and meet together at the Meeting House in Said Town on Tuesday the Eighth day of December Instant at one of the Clock after noon

lly To See if the Town will Reconsider alter or Disanul the vote of the Town passed at their meeting on the 22 day of Oc-

tober last wherein the Town voted to Concur with the vote of the Church in this Town of the fifteenth of October 1778 for giving Mr. Matthew Scribner a Call to Settle in the work of the ministry in this Town

To See if the Town will Choose a new Committee in the room of the present Committee to Supply the Town with a Suitable person to preach the Gospel in this Town

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrent with your Doings there on to one or more of the Selectmen at time and place abve mentioned

Dated Topsfield December 1st. 1778

Zaccheus Gould	} Selectmen of Topsfield
Joseph Cummings Jur.	
Daniel Bixby	

Pursuent to the Within Warrent I have warned all the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants that are qualified for voting in the North ward in Said Town to Convene together at time and place within mentioned

Topsfield December the 4th. 1778

Ephraim Dorman Constable of Topsfield

The South ward was Warned by a Like Warrent and a return made in the following words /Viz/ In Obedience to the within written Warrent I have warned the freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the South ward according to Warrent

Topsfield December the 3d : 1778

Ephraim Towne Constable of Topsfield

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Other Inhabitants of Topsfield the 8th. day of December 1778

1ly Samuel Smith Esq. was Chosen Moderator for said meeting

2ly The question being put to see if the Town will Reconsider alter & Disanul the vote of the Town passed at their meeting on the 22d day of October Last, wherein the Town voted to Concur the vote of the Church in this Town of the 15th. of October 1778 for giving Mr. Matthew Scribner a Call to Settle in the work of the ministry in this Town, and it past in the affirmative there was 52 voted in the affirmative and 51 in the Negative

3ly The question being put to See if the Town will Choose a Committee in the room of the present Committee to Supply the Town with a Suitable person to preach the Gospel in this Town and it past in the affirmative

4th Mr. Eliezer Lake Mr. Stephen Foster Junr. and Major Joseph Gould was Chosen a Committee to Supply the Town with a Suitable person to preach the Gospel in this Town

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